



## Jobless Palestinians say peace gives no jobs

By Samia Nakhoul  
Reuter

GAZA — Hundreds of young men showed their way through a queue in Gaza on Tuesday, not to see Yasser Arafat but to reach a board listing those granted permits to work in Israel.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader's return is not the highest priority for the unemployed men standing in the scorching sun outside the Palestinian-run labour office in the impoverished Gaza Strip.

All they want is a job and for most of them Israel is the only place to go.

Five days after Mr. Arafat ended 27 years exile to run the Palestinian self-rule territories in Gaza and Jericho, many said they

were disappointed that the man they hoped would change their lives returned to Gaza saying he has no money.

"Abu Ammar is coming back to us penniless. We have waited and waited for him for so long and he returned empty-handed, with nothing," said Ismael Al-Ashram, jobless for more than a year.

"All we've got is speeches, ululations and clappings. He came back declaring his bankruptcy. This is his surprise to us."

The men clamoured around the notice board, waiting until closing hours and then dispersing disappointed. Many say they have been repeating the routine every day for the past six months.

"As long as there is no work we tell Abu Ammar that the situation will worsen," Mr. Ashram said.

pulling up his pockets to show they contained no money.

"People will rise up, kill and steal. If they don't give us jobs, there will be another intifada," he said.

"We don't want words to lift our morale, we want money to feed our children. Words could not replace bread," said Abdullah Shmoud, 31, an unemployed driver.

Mr. Arafat made it clear when he met European diplomats on Sunday that he has to deliver jobs fast or his popularity and peoples' commitment to the peace deal signed with Israel on May 4 would be at stake.

He said he desperately needed cash to pay teachers, civil servants, police, manpower and to set up the ministries that will carry the projects that will be financed by western

donor states.

Donor meetings in Paris have netted \$137 million for the Palestinian administration in the Gaza Strip and Jericho, but the self-government budget is estimated at \$380 million.

The Palestinian economy went into a deep decline starting with the Palestinian uprising in 1987, the Gulf crisis of 1990 which devastated Palestinian share of the Gulf job market.

Israel's closures to Palestinian workers last year are this in response to waves of attacks on Israelis have dealt another blow to the economy of the territories.

Klaus Worm, director of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency operations in Gaza, told Reuters the Palestinian authority's most pressing problem is unemployment. It has to create jobs for

almost 65,000 workers who were banned from working in Israel.

Another priority, Mr. Worm said, was setting up sewage lines, waste disposal, paving roads and building new water resources to accommodate the growing population.

The PLO needs to upgrade Gaza's outmoded hospitals, repair rundown schools and build new ones to accommodate large numbers of pupils. It must create classroom space for children of policemen and civil servants coming with Mr. Arafat as he moves his headquarters from Tunis.

"These people want to see improvement of the economic situation," one diplomat quoted Mr. Arafat as having told diplomats. "They want salaries and jobs. If they don't get them they will react."



Elias Hrawi

## Hrawi: No separate peace

BEIRUT (AP) — President Elias Hrawi said Tuesday Lebanon would never sign a unilateral peace with Israel despite the absence of a unified negotiating line.

"We shall remain committed to collective peace with other Arab partners and will never sign a separate deal," Mr. Hrawi said in a nationally televised question-and-answer session with Lebanese University graduates.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### U.N. aid operations in Sudan threatened

NAIROBI (AFP) — The U.N. World Food Programme warned Tuesday that funding problems were threatening operations to deliver food to nearly four million people facing starvation in southern Sudan. In a statement released here, it said that a cereal pipeline in Khartoum for its relief programme was critically low and the curtailment or suspension of air operations due to lack of funding had added to the problems of aid deliveries. Against the background of reduced capacity and reduced resources, the situation on the ground in Sudan was deteriorating, as the majority of southern Sudanese entered the hunger-gap this year, a period between the exhausting of food stores from the previous harvest and availability of food from the 1994 harvest, the statement said. The U.N. agency said deliveries by air into southern Sudan through Khartoum, Kenya and Uganda had to be interrupted and severely curtailed between April and June due to lack of funding, resulting in deliveries of only 36 per cent of required food needs in Bhar Al Ghazel, Jonglei and Upper Nile.

### New envoy prepares for duties

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The new U.S. ambassador to Saudi Arabia met Tuesday with President Bill Clinton and prepared to assume the post vacant for nearly two years.

"The fact that I visited the president before I left showed the importance of this to the president," said Ray Mabius, a former governor of Mississippi. "The relationship between Saudi Arabia and the United States is an important and crucial one for both countries." Mr. Mabius said Mr. Clinton expressed concern at the meeting over the fighting in Yemen and reiterated a call for a ceasefire.

### Lawyer kills 3, commits suicide in Iran

TEHRAN (AFP) — A lawyer went berserk in a divorce court in the Iranian capital on Tuesday shooting dead his wife, mother-in-law and the judge before turning the gun on himself, the official agency IRNA said.

Two other people attending the court were also badly wounded when Mohammad Ali Fard unleashed a volley of bullets after a quarrel with the cleric judge. He pulled out a revolver and shot his wife and her mother at point blank range, before killing the judge, Mahmoud Mussavi. He then turned the gun on himself, shooting himself twice in the throat, IRNA added.

### Morocco scraps anti-demonstration law

RABAT (AFP) — The Moroccan parliament scrapped a law against demonstrations as a court in the east of the country freed 14 protesters after reducing their jail sentences on appeal. The parliament unanimously abrogated a 1935 decree punishing "demonstrations endangering public order and in disrespect of authority" on a motion by the socialist and nationalist opposition parties. The opposition said the original decree was issued under the French protectorate and was aimed at repressing open confrontation by supporters of independence. Justice Minister Mohammed Idrissi Alami Machichi said the abrogation was in line with the desire by King Hassan II "to modernise the legislation in order to consolidate democracy with regard to respect for human rights." Coincidentally at Taza, in eastern Morocco, an appeal court ordered a two-year jail sentence imposed on 14 unemployed university graduates for staging an unauthorised demonstration to be reduced to three months suspended, a judicial official said.

### Britain demands details on Iraq prisoners

LONDON (R) — Britain demanded on Tuesday that Iraq give information about Kuwaitis held in its prisons and said it was not forthcoming soon the matter would be referred to the U.N. Security Council. Foreign Office Minister of State Douglas Hogg said Iraq officials had "not given a 'initial response' to 71 of 609 inquiry files passed on Monday by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) more than 18 months ago. "We are demanding that Iraq give information on the other files very soon," Mr. Hogg said in written parliamentary reply. "If substantive progress is not made, this matter may have to be referred to the Security Council for further action," Mr. Hogg said an international committee overseeing the release of prisoners after the 1991 Gulf war would meet again in two months and would discuss Iraq's cooperation, or lack of it. Iraqi officials met the committee in Geneva on July 1 and promised to try to find out what happened to the 609 Kuwaitis.

### Would-be Rabin heir claims power base

TEL AVIV (R) — A young Israeli political rebel touted as a possible successor to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin took control on Tuesday of the ruling Labour Party's traditional power base. Former Labour Health Minister Haim Ramon, 44, who was kicked out of the party earlier this year, was elected to head the Histadrut union federation in a stormy convention that formally ended Labour's 74-year domination of the body. In a series of political gambles the dovish, Tel Aviv-born lawyer has publicly embarrassed party regulars, who booed him out of Labour in February after he shamed Mr. Rabin with a bitter, nationally broadcast farewell speech as health minister at a party forum attended by the prime minister. Mr. Rabin hinted at the time Mr. Ramon — campaign manager for Mr. Rabin's 1992 electoral trouncing of the hardline Likud — was headed for political exile. But Mr. Ramon roared back with an independent list that ended Labour's seemingly immutable lock on the Histadrut leadership. Opinion polls have shown Mr. Ramon led all listed contenders to succeed Mr. Rabin. If 72-year-old prime minister and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, 70, stepped down from the leadership of Labour.

## 'Unfinished business' keeps crowds from Arafat

By Neil MacFarquhar  
The Associated Press

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — It was supposed to be one of the most electrifying moments in Palestinian history: The return of Yasser Arafat to Gaza and the West Bank as president after leading his guerrilla movement through a rambling, 27-year exile.

But the five-day inaugural visit of the beloved Abu Ammar went a bit flat.

Analysts point to a variety of factors including the unfinished details in the self-rule agreement, a disappointing performance by Mr. Arafat from the start and growing insider-versus-outsider tensions that kept ward organisers sitting on their hands.

Abu Ammar, the man with the leadership vision is no longer there. You have Yasser Arafat the man who negotiates the nitty gritty and can't even deliver on that," said West Bank political science professor Khalil Shikaki.

Organisers in the Gaza Strip had predicted that nearly all 800,000 residents would

turn out to cheer their leader. At most, 35,000 filled the main square for his Friday speech. In the West Bank seat of self-rule at Jericho, police on Tuesday braced for 250,000 West Bank residents. Not even the entire area population of 15,000 seemed to be on hand.

Mr. Arafat blamed the Israeli government Monday for keeping the crowds away. He said they violated the peace treaty by allowing settlers to rule the roads, blocking his supporters with acid clouds of black smoke from barricades of burning tyres.

"The army, the disruption, the attempts at intimidation, in a sense it encapsulates all the difficulties," said Hanan Ashrawi, Mr. Arafat's former spokeswoman.

The Israeli government denied it vehemently, saying they kept the roads clear and even protected those trying to go.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin urged Mr. Arafat to ask the Palestinians why they snubbed him in Jericho. "No way did the army prevent the Palestinians from going to the ceremony orga-

nised in Jericho," Mr. Rabin said on state radio after Mr. Arafat accused Israel of stopping Palestinians.

"If they did not turn up Arafat would be better asking the Palestinians why."

"It is true that settlers tried to halt traffic, but not to the point of preventing Palestinians from getting there," Mr. Rabin said.

No doubt there was some violence. At one roadblock, protesters spotted an Arabic press sticker plus a palm tree decal popular among Arabs on the car of Miami Herald correspondent Carol Osenberg.

"Arab reporter, Arab reporter," she remembers them shouting before they swarmed over the car, kicked in a headlight and snapped off both the antenna and a windshield wiper. Police did not intervene until one threw scalding coffee at her.

But more important, the Palestinians themselves exhibited none of the effervescence that greeted the first units of Palestinian police two months ago. Everyone from teenagers to grandmothers stood in the glaring

sun for two days singing, clapping and dancing.

"I think people are fed up with discourses about unity and brotherhood rather than specific visions of what the future holds for Palestinians," Mr. Arafat's decision to pick mostly older Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) members for important posts — all but ignoring the young men who led the uprising that paved the way for his return — caused a lot of grumbling.

Members of his Fatah faction feel abandoned, especially since he has cursed them harshly when they criticised his autocratic style. To make their point, they did nothing to get out the crowds.

Most feel that the current mood is more a dissatisfaction with the chaotic implementation of the peace treaty rather than the process or the man himself.

"The real celebration will be when all the exiles return, all the prisoners are released and the West Bank is liberated," said Sami Saadi, a 32-year-old Gaza boutique owner.

compounded by the fact that Mr. Arafat's speeches have been rambling, disjointed discourses about unity and brotherhood rather than specific visions of what the future holds for Palestinians.

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## For some Jews, Arafat is also their president

JERUSALEM (AP) — One of the most startling moments of Yasser Arafat's visit here was the moment of his self-declared government Tuesday, when a group of ultra-orthodox Jews walked across the stage and kissed him.

The bearded men in black felt hats, long black coats and black stockings were the leaders of Neturei Karta, an ultra-religious group based in Jerusalem.

They had heard Rabbi Meir Kahane was coming to the city and they had come to meet him.

Neturei Karta is a tiny, ultra-religious group based in Jerusalem. They are prone to issue statements saying their children enjoyed themselves ripping "blue and white rags" off cars, a reference to the Israeli flag of blue stripes and a blue star of David on a white background.

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The name Neturei Karta stems from the Aramaic for "guardians of the city," a reference to a holy Jewish text that says scholars are the true defenders of Jerusalem.

The most hardline members refuse to carry Israeli identification cards, recognise Israeli courts or vote in elections.

Rabbi Hirsch was associated with the group's activities.

delegation to the peace talks that preceded last summer's breakthrough.

This group of several hundred believes the establishment of a secular state is a heresy because a Jewish state can only be created when the Messiah arrives.

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## Beirut landmarks levelled

BEIRUT (AFP) — Over the past two weeks dozens of buildings have been actively flattened by Israeli tanks, tanks, 19th century Ottoman souks, and even a police station devastated in Lebanon's 15-year civil war.

Demolition crews below up the landmark Rivoli building in the Lebanese capital as preparations for the reconstruction and development of the war-shattered city centre picked up steam.

Like other buildings, the Rivoli was levelled because it stood in the way of a project to rebuild and develop the entire centre — a total of 4.4 million square metres of built-up area.

The project was due to start in the early 1990s and has been delayed by the civil war. Buildings which should have been preserved are being torn down.

Solidere, the private company which has taken upon itself the task of rebuilding the city centre, hopes to launch infrastructure work estimated at \$500 million in August.

The work to lay the infrastructure will cover one million square metres of the city centre and already 13 firms.

most of them Lebanese in joint ventures with foreign companies, are vying for contracts.

Last week an international jury chaired by Egyptian architect Abdul Wahed Al Waki selected French, Italian and British projects for the reconstruction of the souks, or markets.

Designs submitted by Anabel Karim Kassar of France, Adam D. Drisin of Italy and Mark Saade of Britain were pre-selected from among 353 projects. The winner of the contest will be announced later this month although his project will not be immediately implemented.

The first attempt on Monday to demolish the Rivoli, built in the early 1960s and housing many of Beirut's oldest shops, failed as several bystanders cheered.

A loud explosion echoed across the city, smoke mushroomed and the earth rumbled but still the Rivoli resisted.

It took two attempts and the equivalent of 200 kilograms of TNT to tear the Rivoli down. The adjacent Regent Hotel and four other buildings went the same way.

"They're destroying my city," said Ahmad, an engineer opposed to the removal of the Rivoli which he said was "the heart of Beirut."

The massive building, on the edge of the city centre's main square, stood as a symbol to Beirut's glorious past as a financial centre when the Lebanese capital was dubbed the Switzerland of the Middle East.

Before the destruction was under way, the authorities evacuated 141 families who had been squatting in the Rivoli and five other adjoining buildings.

Solidere Chairman Nasser Shammai said last week: "Beirut has to be rebuilt quickly because Lebanon cannot live without a financial, economic and cultural centre."

The company was created after parliament passed a controversial law in 1991 allowing real estate firms to expropriate land for their benefit.

An initial plan to build a Manhattan-style landscape was shelved amid mounting criticism from conservatives who wanted to restore Beirut's traditional face.

### PRAYER TIMES

09:00 Morning Prayer  
10:00 Noon Prayer  
12:30 Afternoon Prayer  
15:00 Evening Prayer  
18:00 Night Prayer

### WEATHER

03:57 Fair  
06:57 Fair  
12:00 Fair

### TELEPHONE NUMBERS

AMMAN: Dr. Mubashir Matarah 820425  
Dr. Nasser Ibrahim 831039  
Dr. Mohammad Shuaib 852093  
Dr. Mohammad Lubadhi 852095  
Firas Pharmacy 861912  
Ferdous Pharmacy 778336  
Al-Azhar Pharmacy 637885

### NIGHT DUTY

Blind Bank 775121  
Highway Police 843402  
Traffic Police 880308  
Public Security Department 630321  
Hotel Complaints 661881  
Water and Sewerage 897467  
Complaints 787111  
Telephone Information 121  
Director's Assistant 1111230  
Overseas Calls 1111230  
Central Amman Telephone 1111230

### EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111  
Civil Defence Intimidate 661111

### AMMAN

Al-Salam Medical Centre 8184332  
Khaleel Al-Salam, J. Amn 642816

### ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS

Departures (Terminal 1)  
06:45 Beirut (RJ)  
08:00 Amman (RJ)  
11:45 Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
12:00 Rome (RJ)  
12:15 Amsterdam, Chicago (RJ)  
12:30 Paris (RJ)  
13:00 Athens (RJ)  
13:15 London (RJ)  
13:45 Cairo (RJ)  
14:00 Bahrain (RJ)  
14:30 Larnaca (RJ)  
15:00 Jeddah (RJ)  
15:30 Dubai, Muscat (RJ)  
16:00 Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta (RJ)

### ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)  
06:45 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)  
09:45 New Delhi (RJ)  
10:15 Riyadh (RJ)  
10:15 Amman (RJ)  
10:30 Dhahran (RJ)  
11:00 Beirut (RJ)  
11:00 Colombo (RJ)  
11:00 Cairo (RJ)  
11:30 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)  
12:00 London (RJ)  
12:15 Paris (RJ)  
12:30 Athens (RJ)  
12:45 Rome (RJ)  
13:00 Amsterdam, Chicago (RJ)  
13:15 Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
13:45 Bahrain (RJ)  
14:00 Larnaca (RJ)  
14:30 Jeddah (RJ)  
15:00 Dubai, Muscat (RJ)  
16:00 Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta (RJ)

### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

13:10 Sharjah (AH)  
13:30 Abu Dhabi (GA)  
13:35 Munich (DE)  
14:00 Riyadh (SU)  
14:30 Cairo (MS)  
21:15 Beirut (ME)

### HIJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN

Dep. Amman 8:00 a.m. every Monday  
Arr. Damascus 5:00 p.m. every Monday  
Dep. Damascus 7:30 a.m. every Sunday  
Arr. Amman 5:00 p.m. every Sunday

### MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple	220/300
Apricots	480/550
Banana	620
Banana (Mukammal)	680
Cabbage	260/280
Carrot	140/180
Celery	200/250
Cherry	1200/1700
Cauliflower	200/100
Cucumbers (large)	100/150
Cucumbers (small)	120/150
Eggplant	110/150
Fennel	460/500
Grapes	550/350
Lemon	50/140
Orange (large)	80/140
Orange (small)	100/140
Potato	80/100
Tomato	110/150

## FAO meeting ends with warning of water shortages

AMMAN (J.T.) — Delegates to the 22nd regional meeting of the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) Wednesday ended their meetings in Amman warning that water shortages would be a major stumbling block in the path of economic and sustainable agricultural development in the Near East region.

Countries of this region working in cooperation with FAO can meet the challenge and should draw up national strategies designed to promote agricultural development, raising the level of efficiency in handling water resources, said the delegates to the meeting.

They recommended that FAO establish a regional office in Jordan to provide services pertaining to agricultural and food production development to the countries of the region.

They also supported FAO's efforts towards con-

trolling and eradicating trans-boundary diseases and pests through a new "emergency prevention system" which would initially concentrate on combating locusts and rinder pests.

The delegates urged countries of the region to revise their own plans for the development of dry areas with a view to utilising a system integrating livestock with farming and also conducting research on ways to better develop pasture lands.

The delegates reviewed preparations for a world food summit due to be held in Canada in 1996, and studied issues related to the impact of structural adjustment programmes on agricultural and rural development, according to a statement issued at the final session.

It said the delegations underlined the need for regional governments to upgrade and increase their cooperation with FAO and to create a liaison committee

representing the countries to take up issues with the organisation.

The delegates also heard an FAO report on the organisation's activities in 1992 and 1993, and reviewed development projects in several of the participating countries.

The 180 delegates representing most Arab states, Cyprus and U.N. organisations operating in the region heard FAO Director General Jacques Diouf at the opening of the conference calling for a new agricultural revolution in order to feed one billion new mouths by the year 2000 and an additional four billion in the year 2030.

Dr. Diouf Wednesday left Amman and was seen off at the airport by Agriculture Minister Mansour Ben Tarraf.

The delegations taking part in the conference toured Jerash and later visited several agricultural and forestry schemes in the Jerash district, accompanied by Khaled Khreisha, Jerash district governor, and other officials.



Scene from the Bakaa refugee camp market (Petra photo)

## Deputies complain of Bakaa conditions

AMMAN (Petra) — Two members of the House of Representatives, Ibrahim Shehadeh and Mohammad Oweida Wednesday complained that the Bakaa refugee camp of nearly 100,000 residents suffers from acute water shortages and other basic services not making them demanded that the authorities extend immediate help to the local population.

Set up in the wake of the 1967 war on a 1,400 dunums, the camp is congested with residents who lack regular transportation and municipal health services, said the two deputies in interviews with the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The lack of regular garbage

collection has created huge mounds of garbage in the alleys and narrow streets of the camp, providing a fertile climate for rodents and insects, said the two deputies.

Mr. Shehadeh and Dr. Oweida noted there is no hospital in the camp and the residents continue to resort to Al Bashir and Jordan University Hospitals for medical attention that is unavailable at the camp's health centres run by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).

Regular transportation throughout the camp is non-existent, although local residents benefit from the buses commuting between Irbid

and Amman, said the deputies.

Dr. Oweida said the camp should be regarded as an integral part of the Bakaa basin, and as such, should not be excluded from the government plans for industrial and agricultural development.

He said that he already took up the idea with Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali and Interior Minister, Salameh Hamad and was awaiting their replies.

Dr. Oweida also suggested that the government help set up a marketplace outside the perimeter of the camp to help ease congestion inside the camp.

## Princess Basma heads 2-day workshop

### Committees report on status of Jordanian women

By Rana Hussein  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A workshop, held to revise a draft paper to be presented at the Fourth World's Conference on Women in 1995, opened Wednesday with detailed presentations on the status of women in Jordan, particularly in their legislative rights, their social, economic and educational status and the problem of violence against women.

The two-day national workshop is headed by Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, and organised jointly by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and the National Committee for Women. It was designed as part of the various national and regional activities aimed at finalising Jordan's national plan of action which will culminate in a regional preparatory meeting for the conference.



Her Royal Highness Princess Basma presides over the opening of a 2-day workshop to revise a draft paper to be presented at the 1995 Fourth World's Conference on Women. Also on the podium (right to left) are Senator Taher Hikmat, Minister of Social Development

ment Mohammad Sqour, Ministry of Education Secretary General Munther Masri and ESCWA's chief of the Women and Development Section Fatima Shaity Qassem (Photo by Rana Hussein).

Addressing more than 40 participants at Queen Zein Al Shara' Complex, Secretary General of the Ministry of Education and head of the preparatory committee Munther Masri explained that 10 committees would each submit recommendations that take into account the changes in women's status in Jordan between 1985 and the present day. These recommendations will be reviewed at this two-day workshop for inclusion in the national paper to be presented at the 1995 Beijing conference.

On legislation, Dr. Masri said there are two main problems that face Jordanian women: legislative text and the way it is implemented,

and gaps in the Jordanian law regarding women's status, which require amending. "But this procedure will take some time before it is completely accomplished," he added.

Violence against women was also noted as a major problem. Dr. Masri pointed out that Jordanian laws do not address family violence, particularly violence against women, a "weak point in our law," he added.

He also said that social and educational institutes to solve such problems are lacking in Jordan. As for education, women's literacy rate was increased 50 per cent, bringing the rate in 1992 to 75 per cent among women.

Women's participation in

the decision-making process was almost non-existent, the proof of which is in the negligible numbers of women in elected and appointed official positions.

According to Mr. Masri, unemployment and poverty were also hindering the progress of women in the nation.

Fatima Shaity Qassem, chief of ESCWA's Women and Development Section, said ESCWA's role is to provide technical assistance to its member states in the region in preparation for the Beijing conference.

She explained that pursuing a bottom-up approach, ESCWA will use the national reports and the national plans of action as inputs in formulating a regional platform of

action, to be submitted for finalisation at an expert group meeting.

The resulting document will be submitted to ESCWA member states for adoption at a ministerial meeting immediately following the expert group meeting. The expert group meeting on the regional plan of action for Arab women will be held in Amman November 8, to be followed by the Inter-governmental Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Fourth World Conference on Women, November 9-10.

After adoption by member states, the Regional Platform of Action will be submitted to the secretary-general of the conference in New York, to be used as an input in the

formulation of a global platform of action.

The regional and global platforms of actions will be presented at the Beijing conference, and national reports will be presented by U.N. member states.

The Beijing conference will review and appraise the advancement of women since 1985 in light of the Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies and will adopt a platform for action focusing on removing obstacles to the advancement of women. Among the areas of concern to be addressed at the conference are: awareness-building, decision-making, literacy, poverty, health, work opportunities, violence, refugees and the effect of wars, environment, and use of media.

## World journalists organisation to convene meeting in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — The International Journalists Organisation (IJO) will hold its 12th general conference in Amman early next year focusing on the work of media representatives in the region and elsewhere in the world.

The announcement was made by IJO chief Gerard Gatnot at a press conference held at Amra Hotel Wednesday during which he outlined the aims and the activities of the Prague-based organisation.

Jordan is the first Arab country to host an IJO conference. The venue was selected because of its proximity to Palestine where very important events are under way and because in Jordan the media is free respected and operating freely unlike other countries of the region, said Mr. Gatnot.

The IJO, founded in 1946, was set up to defend the freedom of the press and of journalists and to promote their material welfare, Mr. Gatnot said.

He said the IJO has been advocating the idea of settling issues through peaceful means and has also been helping journalists trying to secure freedom and independence for their countries such as Vietnam, Algeria, Haiti, Somalia and Palestine.

Referring to aid from the organisation to the Palestinians, Mr. Gatnot said that the IJO has donated \$90,000 to the Palestinian journalists to open press offices.

According to Mr. Gatnot the organisation which represents 300,000 journalists in 120 nations will discuss the struggle of Palestinian journalists and other topical issues at the coming conference.

He said the organisation has formed a panel to address abuses, including detentions and killings, as well as restrictions on freedom of expression in some countries.

Mr. Gatnot noted that the Amman meeting, to be attended by at least 200 journalists from around the world, would also discuss measures to safeguard journalists against adverse effects of prolonged use of computers and other professional equipment.

Speaking at the press conference was Suleiman Qudah, Jordan Press Association (JPA) president, who said that the meeting in Amman would provide a good opportunity for establishing stronger cooperation between the IJO and the JPA.

## No tax on computer parts

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Customs Department has ruled that firms selling computers would not have to pay sales tax on parts brought into the country to upgrade computer programmes if they had already paid customs charges on the computers themselves.

The assistant director of the Customs Department, in a letter sent to the Jordan Computer Society (JCS), said that parts imported to upgrade computer programmes are not subject to the sales tax provided that these parts would not introduce a change in the character or operation of the computers.

The message said that such parts are not to be considered as components for the assembly of a new device, and as such, they are exempt from the sales tax under Article 3 of the Sales Tax Law.

Under the terms of Article 3, components imported for use in the assembly of a new device or material combined with others such as chemical substances to produce a new commodity are all subject to the Sales Tax Law.

The JCS has requested that firms trading in computers and parts needed to upgrade programmes, accelerator boards, hard disks or memory units be considered as business establishments and therefore be exempt from paying the seven per cent sales tax under Article 3 of the law because computer firms are not industrial companies producing or assembling any items.

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## Writers society to debate issue of members meeting Israelis

By Rana Hussein  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The controversy over the participation of a group of Jordanian women together with Israelis in a Mediterranean conference entitled "Mediterranean and European Women's Conference, Women and Peace" held in Morocco in May has prompted the Jordanian Writers Society (JWS) to call for an urgent general assembly meeting to resolve the issue of its members meeting Israeli counterparts.

The 350-member general assembly of the writers society is due to meet Friday to define its policy on the so-called issue of normalisation with Israel. The call for the meeting follows an uproar created by the attendance of Jordanian women at the Marrakesh conference.

Although the conference was attended by five Jordanian women including a senator, noted Jordanian writer Zuleikha Abu Rishbeh was singled out by fellow writers and colleagues at the JWS.

The JWS, of which Ms. Abu Rishbeh is a member, sent her a letter condemning her for attending the Marrakesh meeting and demanding that she apologise in writing.

The letter charged that Ms. Abu Rishbeh's participation in the conference

was in violation of the society's internal law which empowers the JWS administrative committee with the right to warn or dismiss any member who "damages the society's reputation."

The general assembly will ask its members on Friday to formulate their position on "any member who attends a conference with Israeli delegates on the issue of 'meeting with Israeli democratic elements that support Palestinians rights' on the JWS position 'on official and non-official invitation to Arab intellectuals who carry the Israeli citizenship,' on the JWS position against 'any member who communicates with Israeli media,' and the JWS position of any member who accepts an Israeli prize."

According to Mu'nes Razzaz, the JWS president, the July 8 meeting is "not a campaign against Ms. Abu Rishbeh, as much as a session to discuss similar cases and to tackle the issues with members and get their opinions on them."

"The society's policy is against any contact or any organising of contacts with Israeli intellectuals," he said.

The society in its warning letter condemned Ms. Abu Rishbeh for continuing to participate in the event after learning of the Israeli presence at the conference.

Ms. Abu Rishbeh said she

did not receive the letter, and only "heard about it from close friends."

"I have cleared my position and published an article (in the daily Akher Khabar) that explains my side of the story after learning of the conflict in some newspapers, which the JWS did not take into consideration," she said.

Ms. Abu Rishbeh told the Jordan Times that when she received the invitation to the conference in early May, she was not aware of an Israeli participation. She said she received an invitation by the facsimile that did not include a list of the participants, but only the topics to be reviewed at the conference.

"I was really shocked when I learned that an Israeli women's delegation was going to participate in the conference, and I thought of returning home without participating," she said.

After studying and thinking it over, Ms. Abu Rishbeh said, she decided to attend, bearing in mind that in the past many Arab and Jordanian groups participated in similar conferences.

"I thought it is not a shame any more to meet with our enemy, on the contrary, meeting became a necessity to meet rather than being afraid of them," Ms. Abu Rishbeh added.

More than 200 Arab, European, Turkish and



Zuleikha Abu Rishbeh

Israeli women gathered in Marrakesh to attend the conference in May. It was the first ever large scale Arab-Israeli encounter outside the framework of the Arab-Israeli peace talks.

The meeting was designed to discuss women's legal rights as well as social, political and economic conditions in which they exist.

Jordan sent no official delegation, but was represented by Senator Naela Rashdan, former head of the Jordanian Women's Federation Haifa Bashir, head of the Queen Alia Fund for Social Development (QAF) Jacqueline Fakhouri, journalist Mariam Shahin, and Ms. Abu Rishbeh.

The Israeli delegation was led by Minister of Communication and leader of Meretz Party Shalomit

Aloni. It included Knesset members belonging to both the Meretz and Labour parties and a group of peace activists and journalists.

Ms. Abu Rishbeh said the controversy was created by "some individuals who used this event for revenge and to slander my reputation." She would not elaborate.

She said she attended the conference as a feminist, not as a JWS member.

She added that her meeting with Israelis was not the first of its kind, others have met Israelis as well.

Jordanian and Arab writers have been waging campaigns against some Arab poets and writers since the Madrid conference of October 1991 and more recently the signing of the Oslo accord in September 1993. Many writers have been warning of the dangers of normalisation on Arab culture and calling on the public to fight it.

For the writers who oppose the idea, normalisation with an enemy has become a key word to differentiate between a patriot and a traitor.

On the other hand, other writers in support, do not consider normalisation as the real threat. They cite the modification of Jordanian school curricula that formal peace is widely expected to introduce into the Arab countries' pedagogic systems.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

- ★ Field trip to Mafrak (including Al Fedain, Rihab, Sa'ad, Nadera, Al Medwar, and Khatabah) organised by the Friends of Archaeology Society. Departure will be by bus from the Amra Hotel parking lot on Friday at 8:00 p.m.
- ★ Spanish film entitled "El Viaje A Ninguna Parte" at the Spanish Cultural Centre on Thursday at 4:30 p.m. (Tel. 613077).
- ★ Film entitled "Stagecoach" at the American Center on Thursday at 5:00 p.m. (99 minutes).
- ★ Video film in English on the National Gallery of Art in Washington (with commentary in Arabic by Dr. Khaled Khreisha) at Darat Al Funun of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Luweibdeh on Thursday at 5:00 p.m.
- ★ Lecture in Arabic entitled "In the Absence of the Arab Strategic Mind: What to Do?" by Dr. Mohammad Abdul Fadil at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Amman on Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

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## Haiti-U.S. tensions rise amid swelling refugee tide

PORT-AU-PRINCE (R) — Tensions between Haiti's army-backed government and the United States began to rise as a mounting tide of refugees and U.S. efforts to handle them increased pressure for a speedy end to the crisis.

The U.S. government said it was sending 2,000 Marines to the waters off Haiti to bolster an embargo against the Caribbean nation's military rulers.

Washington also announced that Haitians fleeing their country by boat would no longer be eligible for resettlement in the United States following a record flood of 3,245 asylum seekers picked up by U.S. ships Monday.

On Tuesday, a staggering 1,700 more boat people were rescued at sea, according to a preliminary count by the Coast Guard. "The people doing that (compiling today's data) are overwhelmed right now," a Coast Guard spokesman said.

U.S. officials in Port-Au-Prince said Tuesday afternoon they were already developing Creole-language radio spots to let Haitians across the country know about the policy change, intended to discourage people from taking to the seas.

The U.S. Coast Guard said 11,627 refugees have been picked up since June 16, when the Clinton administration agreed to hold political asylum interviews with each migrant. Haitian boat people previously had been repatriated without hearings.

"We are pretty much taxed to capacity," said Stanley Schrager, the U.S. embassy spokesman in Haiti. A maximum of 10,250 Haitians can currently be dealt with at any one time, he said.

With President Bill Clinton piling on economic sanctions in a bid to force Haiti's army leaders to resign, the exodus has further increased tensions with Haiti's de facto government.

U.S. officials announced late Monday that 2,000 U.S. Marines based in Norfolk, Virginia, would arrive off the Haitian coast later this week to boost enforcement of the U.N.-imposed worldwide trade embargo against Haiti.

Mr. Schrager said Tuesday that the Marines "could come to the assistance of American citizens if necessary. It is a precautionary measure."

The United States already has six frigates and two coastal patrol boats enforcing the embargo.

Mr. Clinton has refused to rule out military force against Haiti's army. And the military-installed government accused Washington late Monday of organising and financing the exodus of refugees as a pretext for a military invasion.

It said the United States was even kidnapping Haitian fishermen and presenting them to the media as boat people to bolster the numbers.

Mr. Schrager denied the charge. "I think that's ridiculous. The de facto government is understandably embarrassed by the number of people trying to leave the country," he said.

Washington's so-called treaty of interdiction with Haiti expires in October, and exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, who was ousted in a bloody military coup 33 months ago, is thought unlikely to renew the treaty unless he has been returned to power.

He needs U.S. support if he is ever to return to Haiti but Mr. Aristide has been a harsh critic of Washington's immigration policy toward Haitians. His prime minister, Robert Malval, said the United States would not be able to persuade Mr. Aristide to back down on interdiction.

"Aristide will not give in. He has no interest in giving in on this front," Mr. Malval said in an interview last week. "There will be boatloads of refugees taking to

the seas."

More than 50,000 Haitians, most of them crammed onto flimsy and overloaded boats, have fled their homeland since Mr. Aristide was overthrown.

It was not immediately clear Tuesday how the Haitian people would react to the news that only Haitians applying for asylum at three processing centres in their homeland would be eligible for resettlement in the United States.

To handle the refugees, the U.S. government said Tuesday it would establish "safe havens" for them in a number of Caribbean nations. Panama has agreed to accept 10,000, and a processing centre aboard a U.S. Navy vessel has been operating in Jamaican waters since June 16.

U.S. officials said the exodus was straining the facilities for political asylum hearings on ships docked near Jamaica and at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Base in Cuba.

At the annual Caribbean Community (CARICOM) economic summit being held in Barbados this week, officials from member nations said Tuesday that more Caribbean countries were prepared to create "safe havens" similar to those being discussed by Dominica and Antigua.

Meanwhile, the residents of the coastal town of St. Marc Tuesday mourned the deaths of some 150 people who drowned as they tried to flee Haiti to seek asylum and a better life in the United States.

Survivors of the mass drowning and relatives of those who were killed tried to come to terms with the tragedy while the corpses of almost all the dead remained floating at sea or trapped in the shell of the boat that overturned off Haiti's western coast before dawn Monday.



Crewmen from a U.S. Coast Guard cutter attempt to rescue three Haitian refugees and an overboard crewmate after a 40 foot boat containing more than two hundred refugees capsized off the coast of Haiti (AFP photo)

## Shanghai to set up nerve centre for disasters

SHANGHAI (AFP) — Shanghai is installing a new emergency telecom system which will allow the authorities greater control in dealing with natural and industrial disasters, according to some experts, workers, unrest.

Press reports said Wednesday that the 800 MHz wireless telephone and paging system would be located in the government's Shanghai Emergency Communications Office at the new 20-storey town hall, currently under construction.

The hall will be completed in October, but the reports quoted city officials as saying the system will go into operation next March.

Equipment for the emergency system, established at the suggestion of the State Council in 1992, was purchased from U.S. electronics giant Motorola, which has a substantial manufacturing presence in Shanghai.

The 800-MHz frequency has traditionally been used by China's People's Liberation Army (PLA).

The new system will be controlled solely by the city government, which has also purchased several vans installed with satellite receiving facilities and microwave telecommunications system.

Local government officials have recently voiced doubts about the ability of the city's analogue telephone system to cope with a time of crisis, citing the 1983 earthquake in the Yellow Sea as an example of panic-stricken residents flooding the system with calls and rendering it virtually useless.

According to the press reports, the municipal authorities are also worried about large-scale industrial accidents, especially in the growing chemicals industry.

Shanghai is China's largest industrial centre with more than 15,500 factories using tonnes of toxic and hazardous chemicals, many of which are transported across the city's Huangpu River.

## U.K. lists acceptable EU candidates

LONDON (AFP) — Britain has drawn up a list of acceptable possible candidates for the European Commission presidency, reinforcing optimism of a swift end to the dispute over a successor to Jacques Delors, press reports said Wednesday.

British ministers indicated that the names on a draft list of contenders, drawn up in Whitehall but representing the ruling Conservative government's understanding of the position of other European Union (EU) member states, are all broadly acceptable to London, according to reports in the Financial Times and the Independent.

The papers said the names had been canvassed during intense consultations among EU governments after British Prime Minister John Major caused deadlock at the EU summit in Corfu last month by vetoing his Belgian counterpart Jean-Luc Dehaene.

A Downing Street spokesman late Tuesday refused to confirm or deny that the government had drawn up the list.

"There is going to be full consultation with all the member states. We are not

discussing which names are acceptable at this stage," he said.

Among the reported fresh contenders for the European Commission presidency are former Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, and Spanish Finance Minister Pedro Solbes.

But former Italian Prime Minister Giuliano Amato apparently remains the choice in London, the reports said.

Britain would also be happy with Mr. Ellemann-Jensen or Mr. Solbes, and Mr. Major was said to have no "overwhelming objection" to the other candidates being mentioned.

They are outgoing Dutch Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers, who failed to muster enough votes at the Corfu summit, Dutch Commissioner in Brussels for External Political Affairs Hans Van Den Broek, Renato Ruggiero, at present Italy's candidate to head the World Trade Organisation, and former Danish Prime Minister Poul Schluter.

British ministers have reportedly acknowledged the list is not final. But comments by Chancellor

Helmut Kohl of Germany Tuesday that Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez had ruled himself out of the race strengthened the view in London the successful candidate most probably will be drawn from the names now circulating.

As president of the EU council, Mr. Kohl is preparing the ground for a decision at or before a special Brussels summit on July 15 which was called to settle the question.

Britain is reported to be unwilling to give public support to any individual candidate for fear of a backlash from other EU governments.

Mr. Major vetoed Mr. Dehaene because of his Eurocentric views, as well as out of annoyance at the attempt by France and Germany to sew up the choice and for internal political reasons.

The Financial Times said it also became clear Tuesday that Mr. Major appeared willing to risk the anger of so-called Eurosceptics in his ruling Conservative Party by nominating former Labour leader Neil Kinnock as Britain's second commissioner in Brussels from January.

## Zhirinovskiy causes upset at CSCE meeting

VIENNA (AFP) — Russian ultra-nationalist leader Vladimir Zhirinovskiy drew protests over his expansionist views by declaring at a meeting of European deputies that a newly-fortified Russia would win a future world war.

"I warn you: On the ruins of the Soviet Union a new and strong Russia has been born," he said, speaking at the annual parliamentary assembly of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

"Russia will win firm and definitive victory in the third world war," he added.

The comments by the leader of the Russian Liberal Democratic Party brought protests from delegates, who banged on the tables to try to drown Mr. Zhirinovskiy out.

In a speech on the fringe of the conference earlier in the day he also warned the international community against tampering in the affairs of former Soviet states in the Caucasus region, saying they were Russia's concern.

He referred to the Caucasus as a region "where there are no defined borders and where everything remains open... these questions are the exclusive concerns of Russia," he said.

Mr. Zhirinovskiy also called for a new division of Europe, reversing its unification since the end of the cold war.

"We need polarity and competition," he said, adding that the division "should not be between the West and the East but between the North and the South."

In other comments, Mr. Zhirinovskiy also opposed holding a debate on the situation in ex-Yugoslavia, beyond saying that Turkey should not be involved in Bosnia, which was "a Christian country."

A spokesman for the Austrian Interior Ministry said Mr. Zhirinovskiy was not wanted in Austria, adding that any request for his visa to be extended beyond July 10 would be refused.

"The presence of Mr. Zhirinovskiy is not desired, and if he asks his visa to be extended beyond July 10 we will not grant it to him," the spokesman said. Mr. Zhirinovskiy visited Austria for a private visit last December.

The rightwing leader is attending as a member of the Russian delegation to the conference, which opened Tuesday. The conference is scheduled to continue until Friday.

## Republic issue disrupts Australia opposition unity

SYDNEY (AFP) — The newfound unity of Australia's conservative — and supposedly monarchist — opposition was looking decidedly shaky Wednesday following disclosures about the strength of its closest republican movement.

Fighting has broken out between senior opposition loyalists and republicans who, according to press reports, may number far more than was previously thought — to the embarrassment of party chiefs.

Until this week, the new and increasingly popular opposition leader Alexander Downer had been trying to smear the push towards a republic as being Labour-driven, accusing Prime Minister Paul Keating of trying to destroy the constitution.

The unity which returned to the conservative coalition of Liberal and National Par-

ties after Mr. Downer's successful leadership bid in May is seen as a major factor in giving it a big lead over the government in recent polls.

But efforts by Mr. Downer to stop squabbling which erupted in the Liberal Party this week have so far failed, though he dismissed talk Wednesday of a split, saying there had always been "a diversity of views" in his party.

While coalition chiefs were reaffirming the anti-republican stance in Canberra Tuesday, prominent Liberal colleagues elsewhere were emerging from the closet to identify themselves as republican sympathisers.

Three of five Liberal state premiers — in New South Wales, South Australia and Tasmania — have identified themselves either as republicans or committed to the view a republic is inevitable.

## Andreotti denies new charge of mafia membership

ROME (AFP) — Former Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti Wednesday denied new accusations that he was a bona fide member of the mafia rather than simply linked to the Sicilian Cosa Nostra clan.

"I have been waiting for a year and a half for evidence to be brought up against me and there still is nothing," Mr. Andreotti said in an interview with the Rome daily La Repubblica.

"But I shall just have to wait, as I know that there is nothing and never will be."

On Tuesday a public prosecutor in Palermo, Sicily's main city, for the first time accused seven-time premier Andreotti of membership of the Cosa Nostra.

To date he has only been suspected of collaborating with organised crime.

## Clinton confident Russia to withdraw from Baltics

RIGA (Agencies) — U.S. President Bill Clinton said Wednesday he was confident that the Russian troop withdrawal from the Baltic countries would proceed on schedule.

Mr. Clinton, who arrived in Riga in the morning, said he thought Russian President Boris Yeltsin sincerely wanted to withdraw the remaining troops from Latvia and Estonia. "He certainly clearly wants to complete the troop withdrawal," he said during the signing of a trade agreement with Latvia.

The U.S. president, who came here to underscore his support for the independence of the Baltic states, continued: "I think it (the withdrawal) will proceed apace. I feel good about where we are right now. I think we're making good progress toward completing the troop withdrawal on schedule."

Moscow has withdrawn from Lithuania forces left behind by the collapse of Soviet power and has said it will pull out of Latvia by Aug. 31, but has not reached agreement with Estonia.

But on Tuesday, Mr. Yeltsin made clear in a telephone

conversation with Mr. Clinton that final agreement on the withdrawal of former Soviet forces from Latvia and Estonia would depend on the treatment of large Russian minorities in the two countries.

Moscow says a citizenship law passed by the Latvian parliament discriminates against the Russian minority. A statement issued by Mr. Yeltsin's office Wednesday said he informed President Bill Clinton of the position in a telephone conversation Tuesday.

Mr. Yeltsin told Mr. Clinton that a timetable for the final troop withdrawals, could be drawn up as soon as "discriminatory acts" against Russian speaking minorities were stopped.

Mr. Yeltsin said he was certain Mr. Clinton will raise the problem of anti-Russian discrimination during a visit to Latvia Wednesday.

Mr. Clinton was quoted as telling Mr. Yeltsin that the issue would "receive the attention it merits."

The U.S. president arrived in Latvian capital Riga Wednesday morning, for the first ever visit to the Baltic

state by a U.S. head of state. Moscow and Riga agreed in April that the last Russian troops would leave Latvia by the end of August. But negotiations with Tallinn (Estonia) are currently deadlocked.

Last month the Latvian parliament voted to severely restrict foreigners' eligibility for Latvian citizenship. Russian speakers were by far the biggest group affected by the law.

Following criticism by many international organisations, including the European Union, the Council of Europe and the European Conference on Security and Cooperation, Latvian President Guntis Ulmanis has referred the law back to parliament.

President Clinton pledged Wednesday to give \$4 million to Latvia to help defray costs of dismantling a former Soviet early-warning radar station at Skrunda, the White House said.

Mr. Clinton told Mr. Ulmanis, that the funds would be forthcoming in line with an earlier request from Latvian officials for assistance in dismantling the site.

The facility at Skrunda, part of the former Soviet army's air defence system, consists of two early-warning radars built in the 1960s as well as an unfinished larger radar site begun in 1986.

The status of the site was a matter of dispute between Riga and Moscow prior to the signing of the accord on Russian troop withdrawals from Latvia.

Under that agreement, the two early-warning radars were to remain under Russian civilian control until 1998 to allow Russia time to replace them with alternative facilities in Russia.

The larger phased-array site, an 18-story structure dominating the skyline near Skrunda, has already been reverted to Latvian control.

President Clinton's third trip to Europe this year finds him striving to boost his image at home and abroad as he tries to prove his leadership skills.

Eighteen months after taking office, Mr. Clinton faces a critical juncture in his presidency. His diplomatic missteps have raised doubts around the world and key components of his domestic

agenda, particularly health care reform, are being buffeted in Congress.

"We could use a win," acknowledged an administration official in discussing the summit of the Group of Seven leading industrial nations, which starts on July 8 in Naples.

Prior to his departure for Europe late Tuesday, Mr. Clinton said he would tell America's partners they must do more to encourage global economic growth.

He also told U.S. business and labour leaders and members of the diplomatic corps his trip would help to "create jobs in a world of prosperity."

Mr. Clinton will arrive in Italy after visits to former cold war battlefields Latvia and Poland. He goes on to Germany after the summit, and winds up his third trip to Europe this year with a visit to Berlin.

His week-long trip, which includes a meeting with Russian President Boris Yeltsin in Naples, is designed largely to show U.S. support for an integrated post-Soviet Europe.

## 'Saleswoman too smelly to sell perfume' — judge

TORONTO (AP) — A judge upheld the firing of a Calvin Klein fragrance demonstrator dismissed by her former bosses because they believed her body odor made her a poor perfume saleswoman. Sharon Bagnall was fired by Calvin Klein Canada in 1991 for what the company termed a "serious personal hygiene problem" and for allegedly disruptive behaviour at odds with the cosmetic giant's image. Ms. Bagnall, 52, fought back with a \$150,000 lawsuit alleging she was wrongfully dismissed. Witnesses testified at her trial that she was always impeccably groomed, didn't smell and acted professionally on the job. But in a decision released Monday, Justice Lee Ferrier of Ontario Court's General Division said he believed Calvin Klein witnesses who testified she smelled like an armpit. "I'm stunned," Ms. Bagnall said. "I felt like I died all over again. I had to get out and go for a walk because I couldn't breathe. I only did this for justice, not money, and I only told the truth. I don't have a job. I haven't had work for a long time and I don't have a bank account. I don't have anything." Judge Ferrier awarded Ms. Bagnall \$5,028 in additional severance pay, but denied any other claims against Calvin Klein, saying the company gave her several chances to clean up her act and didn't fire her just to be mean. "It is my finding that, on occasion, (Bagnall's) clothing had a stale odor of underarm respiration," Judge Ferrier wrote in his ruling. "It was by no means a daily occurrence, but it did occur..." Ms. Bagnall had worked as a fragrance demonstrator for 18 months at Calvin Klein counters at Toronto department stores before she was fired.

## Girl falls from 5th floor; women catch her

TOKYO (AP) — A 3-year-old girl fell from a fifth-floor window Tuesday, but two women below caught her in a yachting jacket that one had been wearing, police said. Nami, Moriyama suffered only a nosebleed and a scratch on her face, said Kyohi Yamada, a police official in Fukuoka, 990 kilometres (560 miles) south-west of Tokyo. Nami had been unable to open the unfamiliar lock in a neighbouring apartment's bathroom, and apparently climbed on the toilet seat to reach the high window, Yamada said. Crying "mama, mama," she first put her feet out the window, about 14 metres (46 feet) above the ground. The two women below shouted for her to stop, but prepared the jacket just in case. When she fell, they caught her in it, Yamada said.

## Knicker mugger loose in Tokyo

TOKYO (AFP) — Tokyo police are stepping up their investigation into a sex maniac whose specialty is to force young women to surrender their panties at knife-point. An 18-year-old woman Monday became the 10th victim of the knicker mugger since the start of the year. Police put the actual number of attacks higher, estimating that other women are probably far too embarrassed to file a complaint. The assailant has been described as a male aged about 20, who roams the streets on a motorbike — but makes no further demands on the woman once he has won her underwear.

## Thieves flee with half-tonne bronze propellers

SOFIA (R) — Bulgarian thieves fled with three bronze ship propellers weighing 500 kg (1,100 lb) each stolen from a storage in the Danube port of Rousse, police said. "The propellers were stolen during the night but we don't know how the thieves made off with this heavy load," a police officer told Reuters. The bronze propellers were valued at 100,000 leva (\$2,000) each, but when sold as scrap on the black market their price is much higher, police said. Thefts of copper and aluminium wire have increased in the past several years, flooding the scrap market with these expensive materials. Police said several thieves have killed themselves trying to tear down wire from electricity poles. Unexploded artillery shells collected on army shooting ranges occasionally end up as pieces of scrap metal endangering local smelters.

كندا في ليد

## Bosnian peace plan gets muted response

SARAJEVO (R) — Serbs and Muslims blamed each other for fighting in Bosnia Wednesday while international mediators presented the rival factions with a new plan intended to end more than two years of war.

Bosnia's Muslim prime minister, Haris Silajdzic, said the peace plan put forward in Geneva by officials of the five-nation "contact group" had serious deficiencies but he declined to say whether his government would accept or reject it.

Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic was quoted as saying his side would consider the proposal and come up with a "clear-cut stance."

Mr. Silajdzic said a peace map, which divides Bosnia roughly in half between the Muslim-Croat federation and the Bosnian Serbs, would be debated by the Bosnian parliament in Sarajevo and the reply given in two weeks, the deadline set by the mediators.

"I am not able to discuss the map now. We will discuss it back in Bosnia," Mr. Silajdzic said in Geneva.

"But I must say — and we said this to the contact group — the solution especially in eastern Bosnia has serious deficiencies and some genocide areas like Prijedor are going to be controlled by those who committed those crimes."

Mr. Silajdzic was referring to the Serbs, who have already indicated that they do not like the look of the map, which awards them 49 per cent of Bosnia — they now hold 70 per cent — and gives 51 per cent to the Muslim-Croat alliance.

Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic told envoys from the Organisation of the Islamic Conference Tuesday that his Muslim-led government would not flatly reject the peace map.

"Our answer will not be some radical no... We believe it wouldn't be wise to reject the plan fully. In other words we believe that peace negotiations should continue," one diplomat quoted him as saying.

Mr. Karadzic told Serb journalists in Geneva Tuesday that the map appeared to be "impossible to accept."

But on Wednesday, he told the Bosnian Serb News Agency that "the Serb side would use the two-week period to consider all implications of what's been offered and

adopt a clear-cut stance on it."

Mr. Karadzic, however, criticised the peace plan as an "American dictate."

He added: "It seems as if the four other mediators have built none of their suggestions into this American-sponsored plan."

Mr. Karadzic dismissed a threat contained in the plan for the gradual lifting of the arms embargo against the Muslims should the Serbs reject the plan.

"This is not a serious threat because the embargo does not exist," he said. "The Muslims are getting weapons," he added.

The peace plan has been endorsed by the foreign ministers of the United States, Russia, Germany, France and Britain.

They have told the Serbs that if they do not accept the plan, the arms embargo against Belgrade will be eased.

Diplomats said Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozirev would travel to Belgrade later Wednesday for talks with Serbia's President Slobodan Milosevic, the Bosnian Serbs' long-time backer.

As the map was being unveiled in Geneva, Serb and Muslim media accused each other's armies of carrying on the fighting on several battlefronts across Bosnia, despite a ceasefire supposed to have been in effect for the past month.

The United Nations, however, reported a relatively low level of military activity, with less shell and mortar fire than previously in north-central Bosnia, which has seen most of the fighting in recent weeks.

"Low levels of activity were reported around Maglaj and Zavidovici, where the fronts seem to be stable," said U.N. military spokesman Commander Eric Chaperon in Sarajevo.

The Bosnian Serbs have counter-attacked in this area, apparently stopping a Muslim offensive intended to take control of an important supply route.

The United Nations also reported continued, low-level conflict in the northwestern Bihać enclave, where rebel Muslims have turned against forces loyal to the Sarajevo government.

Maj. Chaperon said it was estimated that at least 250 people had been killed in this inter-Muslim fighting since June 10.

## Mandela draws leaders together on Angola peace

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South African President Nelson Mandela embarks Thursday on his first major peace mission since taking office, bringing together southern African leaders in a bid to help end Angola's civil war.

Foreign Ministry officials said Mr. Mandela would be joined in the Pretoria talks by the presidents of Angola, Mozambique and Zaire.

Angola said Zaire's support for Jonas Savimbi's UNITA rebels would dominate the talks.

UNITA, which has waged war against the Luanda government for nearly 20 years, would not take part in the discussions, the Foreign Ministry said.

The Angolan government says most arms bought by UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) come across the 1,200 kilometres northern border with Zaire.

Speaking after talks with Zambian President Frederick Chiluba in Luanda Tuesday, Angolan President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos told reporters Luanda had clear ideas about what it wanted from the Pretoria talks.

Mr. Dos Santos said Zaire's military and logistical support for UNITA would dominate the discussions, which follow a request by U.N. mediator Alouine Blondin Beye for Mr. Mandela to help settle a war in which many thousands of people have died.

"President Mandela has been asked to try to overcome the deadlock in Angola," a Foreign Ministry official said.

"We are not going to meddle in other countries' affairs, we are trying to facilitate discussions... principally between the Angolans and the Zaireans," he said.

Mr. Dos Santos told the Angolan News Agency, Angop, the talks would be "dominated and controlled

by the South Africans."

Relations between Angola's formerly Marxist government and Zaire have been strained for years because of Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko's backing for UNITA and Mr. Savimbi.

Maputo newspapers said Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano had been asked by Mr. Mandela to take part in the discussions because of his long experience in constructive diplomacy.

Mr. Chissano was Mozambique's foreign minister until becoming president in 1986 and later set up talks with Mozambique's RENAMO rebel movement that culminated in the October 1992 Rome peace treaty that ended 16 years of civil war in his country.

The Mozambican president's ruling Frelimo Party was a close ally of Mr. Dos Santos's MPLA movement during the liberation wars against Portugal in the 1960s and 1970s.

Political analysts said Mr. Chissano, an old friend of Mr. Mobutu, was well-placed to use "gentle persuasion" on the Zaireans to end their backing for UNITA.

The United Nations' Beye said after talks with Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe last week that drawn-out peace talks under way in the Zambian capital Lusaka since November were slowly making progress.

The main unresolved issue in the Lusaka talks is UNITA's insistence on controlling the governorship of Huambo province, the movement's stronghold in central Angola, in a power-sharing deal.

"We hope to achieve a ceasefire in the near future," said Mr. Beye. UNITA's military commanders have warned the movement's political leaders not to sign any agreement with the Luanda government without their approval.



A French legionnaire with an AAS2 machine gun monitors the front, facing Rwandan Patriotic Front forces near Gikongoro in southern Rwanda where the French are trying to impose a so-called "humanitarian security zone" (AFP photo)

## Belgian minister slams French mission in Rwanda

BRUSSELS (AFP) — Belgian Defence Minister Leo Delcroix Wednesday sharply attacked France's Operation Turquoise in Rwanda, saying French troops had overstepped their mission to shelter refugees from the central African country's ethnic slaughter.

Mr. Delcroix also said Belgium, the former colonial power in Rwanda, had decided to suspend indefinitely its offer to send in some 50 army medics.

Speaking at a press conference, Mr. Delcroix said: "French soldiers are becoming more and more involved in the country's internal affairs."

"The affair is becoming too political and delicate. We are increasingly reticent about intervening," he said.

The minister said Belgium had initially backed the French plan, which was endorsed by the United Nations, to send in up to 2,500 men to create safe havens for civilians fleeing fighting between the mainly Hutu majority government and

minority Tutsis.

But Mr. Delcroix said his government changed its tune after incidents last week between the French troops and members of the Tutsi-led rebel Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF), which now is in control of two-thirds of the country, including the capital, Kigali.

France said Wednesday that it would support a national unity government in Rwanda based on the 1993 Arusha accord, but added that those responsible for the recent massacres in the central African state must be excluded.

With the fall of Kigali to the Tutsi-dominated Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) "it seems that the path to a political accord is more open," Foreign Ministry spokesman Richard Digne said.

"We must then speed up this process which, in line with the Arusha accord, should be founded on power sharing to Rwanda while obviously excluding those responsible for the massacres," he said.

He told reporters, "I am not afraid of the election campaign. I see people are starting to ask for me," he said.

Mr. Gorbachev, who was awarded the 1990 Nobel Peace Prize for the reforms he introduced into the Soviet system, said the current regime of President Boris Yeltsin "needs a powerful democratic alternative."

"I am ready, to participate in this sort of political movement, even without holding the top post in it," he said.

Mr. Gorbachev acknowledged Wednesday, apparently for the first time publicly, that he personally ordered tanks into the Azeri capital, Baku, in an 1990 action that cost nearly 150 lives.

Gorbachev has never

## Rwanda rebels prepare government RPF holds off from confrontation with French

KIGALI (AFP) — The Tutsi-led Rwandan Patriotic Front consolidated its hold Wednesday on two thirds of Rwanda, holding off from confrontation with French forces in the southwest and preparing to form a government of national unity.

Belgium, Rwanda's former colonial power, said Wednesday it was ready to talk to a government led by Faustin Twagiramungu, the moderate Hutu designated as prime minister under the Arusha peace accord reached last year.

Mr. Twagiramungu was chosen by the RPF and the late Hutu President Juvénal Habyarimana last year as the premier of a transitional government for Rwanda bringing an end to three years of civil war.

"We recognise states and not governments, but if the government is formed we are ready to talk to it," the Belgian Foreign Ministry said.

In Kigali, RPF troops continued to patrol through the town, stopping independent witnesses from entering the town centre where they claimed to have discovered mass graves which they were cleaning up.

The RPF commander in Kigali, Colonel Sam Kaka, said Monday troops held "many prisoners," both government soldiers and troops of the Hutu militias set up by Mr. Habyarimana in 1990.

RPF Commander General Paul Kagame said Tuesday journalists will be allowed to see the prisoners.

Gen. Kagame said the RPF was going to announce the formation of a "broad-based national unity government" in "the next few days."

The government will be "open to all Rwandans who have not taken part in the massacres," he said adding that the RPF intends to "share power with the political forces not responsible for the genocide."

"We can unite the country behind the RPF using better methods than those who broke it up," he said.

The Ugandan-trained rebel leader added that after it had consolidated its recent conquests, the RPF would proclaim a ceasefire.

"We do not want to take

the whole of the country and do not need to. Since we captured Kigali, the others are the rebels," he said.

Gen. Kagame said he hoped that in the next few weeks, he would be able to form a national army including officers from the Hutu-led government forces who were not directly implicated in the Rwandan massacres.

The rebel leader said he was ready to discuss the setting up of safe zones in Rwanda for civilians but remained hostile to French attempts to set up its own safe zone in the southwest of the country.

Hundreds of French troops were positioned Wednesday, armed with heavy machineguns, at easily defensible spots on the edge of the "safety zone" declared by Paris as RPF troops bailed their advance only a few kilometres away.

"If we are attacked we will respond in legitimate defence, but we will not start a battle," said Colonel Jacques Rozier, commander of a unit of some 150 elite commandos.

But he replied with a curt "oo" when the asked if his troops would allow the RPF to continue its drive west into the zone and towards the border with Zaire 120

kilometres (75 miles) away.

The zones should not be used to shelter civilian or military killers," Gen. Kagame said Tuesday, reiterating the RPF's right to pursue those responsible for the massacres which have killed up to 500,000 people, according to aid agencies.

Meanwhile, French Defence Minister François Léotard called Wednesday on "European, Western and of course African contingents" to replace French troops in Rwanda "by the end of July."

Mr. Léotard said he "hoped that at the end of July, there will already be significant units to reinforce the U.N. Assistance Mission in Rwanda with European, Western and of course African contingents."

The French minister also criticised the "irresponsible" remarks of former French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing who, speaking on French television Tuesday, slammed the French operation in Rwanda.

France was now opposing the Tutsis, "the victims" of the recent massacres in Rwanda, Mr. Giscard d'Estaing said, while some of those it was protecting were "those who had committed the massacres."

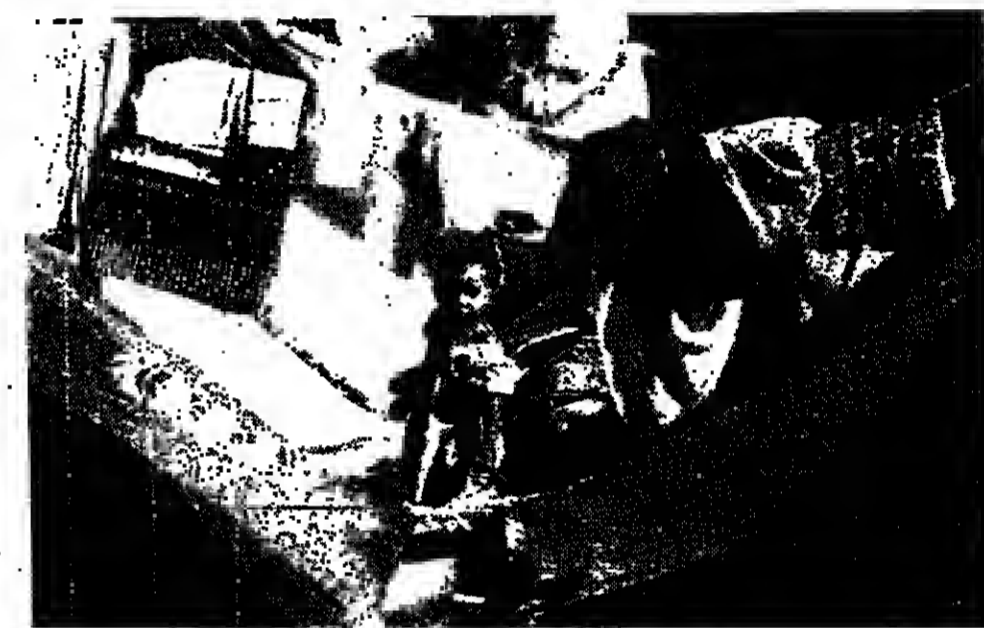
The commander of the U.N. peacekeeping force in Rwanda arrived in Zaire Wednesday for talks with his French opposite number and the head of the beleaguered Rwandan government army.

Major-General Romeo Dallaire, commander of the Kigali-based U.N. Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR), said he would talk with the chief of France's Operation Turquoise, Brigadier-General Jean-Claude Lafourcade, at his base in Goma in eastern Zaire.

The Canadian commander then planned to cross the border to the neighbouring western Rwandan town of Gisenyi for a meeting with Major-General Augustine Bizimungu, the Rwandan army chief of staff.

He declined to comment on the aim of his mission following important victories in the capital Kigali and the south by the rebel Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) in its three-month war with government forces.

France is pressing for UNAMIR to be reinforced from 450 to 3,500 troops, as authorised by the U.N. Security Council in May, so it can take over from French forces.



Among drying clothes and cover sheets two sad-looking children refugees wander around the yard of the Tanzanian embassy in Kigali after the city was seized by the Tutsi minority rebels of the Rwandan Patriotic Front (AFP photo)

## Gorbachev might run for president in '96

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev said Wednesday he will re-enter politics and might run for Russian president in the next election in June 1996.

Mr. Gorbachev, 63, withdrew from politics after the collapse of the Soviet state and up to now had not only ruled out running in the next presidential race but spurned any return to the political arena in post-communist Russia.

But in a three-hour interview with journalists at the headquarters of his foundation here, he said that at some point in the future, he would announce his final decision on whether to enter the presidential race.

"I will participate in the elections when I am sure that the country really needs me,"

he told reporters.

"I am not afraid of the election campaign. I see people are starting to ask for me," he said.

Mr. Gorbachev, who was awarded the 1990 Nobel Peace Prize for the reforms he introduced into the Soviet system, said the current regime of President Boris Yeltsin "needs a powerful democratic alternative."

"I am ready, to participate in this sort of political movement, even without holding the top post in it," he said.

Mr. Gorbachev acknowledged Wednesday, apparently for the first time publicly, that he personally ordered tanks into the Azeri capital, Baku, in an 1990 action that cost nearly 150 lives.

Gorbachev has never

openly accepted direct responsibility for the army's use of force in a series of actions in Baku, the Georgian capital Tbilisi in 1989 and the Lithuanian capital, Vilnius, in 1991.

Hardline officers involved in the actions, most now retired, have accused the former president of evading responsibility.

But in an interview published by Nezavisimaya Gazeta daily newspaper the Nobel Peace Prize winner said:

"For me, it was the worst moment. In fact, I took such a decision (to send in troops) only once, in Baku."

Nearly 150 people died when Soviet tanks rolled into Baku. The initial explanation was to stop attacks on local Armenians.

## U.S. mulls closer ties with Taiwan

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The United States is close to making changes in its relations with Taiwan to allow easier contacts between government officials from both countries, administration officials told the Los Angeles Times.

In its Wednesday edition, the newspaper said that the changes would give the government of Taiwan greater leeway in dealing with the United States than it has had in 15 years.

The review awaits final approval from President Bill Clinton and could be announced in the next couple of weeks, the Times said.

Among the changes under consideration are:

— Allowing American cabinet officials to visit Taiwan and Taiwan cabinet members to visit the United States.

Permitting Taiwan's offices in the United States to use a readily-identifiable name such as the "Taipei Representative Office" instead of the current "Coordination Council for North American Affairs."

— Allowing Taiwan officials to meet with their U.S. counterparts inside U.S. government buildings instead of hotels and restaurants as is the case at present.

With a few exceptions, cabinet-level visits between the two governments have been forbidden for the last 15 years on the grounds that they could be interpreted as U.S. recognition for Taiwan.

The United States agreed through President Richard Nixon in 1972 not to challenge the idea that nationalist

and capitalist Taiwan was part of China. Seven years after that, President Jimmy Carter formally broke off ties with Taiwan and established diplomatic relations with China.

"There is still some concern here about how the Chinese will react," one U.S. official told the Times. "They're not happy with what they've heard."

Sino-U.S. ties have only just avoided two major confrontations over linking trade privileges to China's human rights record and over how to deal with North Korea's nuclear programme.

Any move to improve ties with Taiwan would almost certainly bring an adverse reaction from Beijing which is traditionally highly sensitive to the issue.

## Cambodian deputy minister, top officials arrested in coup plot

PHNOM PENH (Agencies) — The Cambodian authorities arrested a powerful minister and other senior security officials Wednesday following on emergency meeting to probe the involvement of government members in a weekend abortive coup.

The secretary of state for the interior, Sin Sen, was arrested following a security meeting at the council of ministers, hosted by co-premiers Prince Norodom Ranariddh and Hun Sen.

The meeting was also attended by the ministers of defence and the interior, as well as top army and police officials.

Mr. Sin Sen — who Hun Sen earlier said had not been involved in the coup attempt — was prompted from under-secretary to secretary of state for the interior Monday.

Military police who searched his house said they had found a large quantity of weapons.

The city's airport was closed for about an hour Wednesday morning, reportedly because Mr. Sin Sen was scheduled to leave for a private holiday in Malaysia with some police officials.

rounded the house of Colonel Sar Moline, a close associate of former Interior Minister Sin Song, who is being detained for allegedly leading the coup attempt with Prince Norodom Chakrapong.

Though Sar Moline was believed to be in Hong Kong, military police told AFP they had a warrant to search for weapons and other evidence relating to the coup.

Security officials said they had also arrested Tes Choy, head of the Police Department of Defence, Interior Minister You Hockry was quoted by the Cambodia Daily newspaper Wednesday as saying that two top Interior Ministry officials, Sok Chamran and Chin Sarann, who were also suspected of involvement, could not be located.

Secretary of State for Defence Chay Sang Yung, also allegedly involved in the coup, had fled to Vietnam, Prince Ranariddh said Tuesday. A senior police official told AFP that several high-ranking military officers were also believed to have fled to Vietnam.

More arrests were expected Wednesday night, the police officer said, while the United Nations advised its

aid officials in the city to stay home after dark.

Former Interior Minister Sin Song, currently under arrest, was being questioned about other possible accomplices, a senior security official said.

The official said high-ranking government and military officials had supported the coup attempt but switched sides when they realised the government had advance warning and that government forces had intercepted some 200 rebel troops.

The troops had been travelling in a convoy of 12 armoured personnel carriers (APCs) and five trucks late Saturday as they advanced on the capital.

"You must realise that Sin Song has no real power, so how can he get all those soldiers and APCs to come to Phnom Penh?" the official asked.

He added: "There must have been involvement from other government members."

Prince Chakrapong was allowed to leave Cambodia for Malaysia Sunday following the intervention of his father King Norodom Siha-

monk and has since denied involvement in the coup.

In his first official contact with the Malaysian government after three days in hiding in the country, denying that he led the coup attempt and asking to be allowed to remain in Malaysia.

Kuala Lumpur said it would seek confirmation of the prince's denial with the Cambodian government and King Sihanouk before deciding on the next course of action.

Prince Norodom Ranariddh has announced the creation of a special committee headed by the Ministry of Justice to investigate the coup.

Meanwhile, Cambodia's parliament Wednesday overwhelmingly agreed to outlaw the Khmer Rouge guerrillas but the government kept open the door for future peace negotiations with the insurgents.

Parliamentarians voted 98 out of 99 to support the key first article of a bill banning the rebels, paving the way for the passage of the full legislation late Wednesday.

Article one of the eight-article bill said: "The National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia (1) outlaws the

"Democratic Kampuchea" group and its armed forces."

The Phnom Penh government set in train the move to outlaw the Khmer Rouge, who are still fighting a low-level guerrilla war, after the breakdown of peace talks last month.

But Prince Ranariddh said the ban on the faction did not rule out future talks and he reaffirmed his support for human rights safeguards in the controversial bill.

"The law cannot be used against the common people on the one hand and on the other hand I think we should do something in order to keep the door open (for the Khmer Rouge)," he said.

The Khmer Rouge guerrillas are responsible for the deaths of one million Cambodians during 1970s "killing fields" reign of terror, which came to an end in 1978.

Though it was part of the 1991 U.N.-brokered peace accord, the faction boycotted May 1993 elections and this year stepped up its attacks on government forces to back its demand for a role in government.

The head of the Parliamentary Committee for Human Rights and Complaints Kem Sokha, said he was putting

forward an amendment for inclusion in the bill to ensure the door was not shut to future talks with the Khmer Rouge.

"I'm trying to put an article to keep the door open for the Khmer Rouge for negotiations in the future," he said.

He said the amendment was in line with a proposal by King Norodom Sihanouk who last week expressed his opposition to the legislation.

"If after adopting this law the war increases then the king could achieve peace through national reconciliation," he told Reuters.

King Sihanouk had earlier said he would refuse to sign the outlaw bill into law.

It would have to be endorsed by the acting head of state and president of the National Assembly, Chea Sim, he said in a letter sent to a former adviser last week.

The 71-year-old king, in Beijing for medical treatment, did not give reasons for his objections but diplomats said the original draft law would effectively shut the door on the Khmer Rouge being part of a negotiation process for a peace agreement which the king had proposed.

## Jordan Times

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### Future out there

YESTERDAY, only a few days after his return from the United States and Britain, the Egyptian King Hussein paid a brief visit to Egypt for talks with President Hosni Mubarak over recent developments in the region, mainly the Arab-Israeli peace talks and the Jordanian conflict. The visit is also important for its implications for the Jordanian-Egyptian ties. Through no mistake of this regional relations with Egypt had not been at the highest level. They were at times cold, at other times, that served nobody's interest, only added to the disadvantage of the Arab states with enormous roles to play in the region.

That ties with Egypt should be restored to their pre-Gulf war status is a necessity dictated by the greater interests of the Arab nation. The region is going through a critical period which requires the pooling of all Arab abilities and resources in order to move to the next stage in the history of the region with losses minimised, gains maximised. By war and deed, Jordan has demonstrated a thorough understanding of the need for maintaining a strong Arab front. It has not stopped stressing the necessity of putting the tragedy of the Gulf war behind.

Furthermore this country has viewed Arab reconciliation as a national priority without which the Arab World can cope with the emerging regional order, leaving us defeated, fragmented and marginalised. Jordan has not and its doors open for any Arab country that was willing to use it for the benefit of all.

To this position some Arab countries have responded positively, others turned deaf ears. Indications are that Egypt may now be willing to open a new chapter in its ties with Jordan. That can only serve our Egyptian brothers as much as it would serve the Kingdom.

But the significance of the King's visit to Cairo goes beyond its implications for the bilateral ties with Egypt. The visit offers yet another proof of the distance Jordan is willing to cover to maintain coordination with Arab states in tackling issues that transcend beyond the individual borders of any Arab state.

What is at stake are the strategic interests of the nation as a whole. These, in the Jordanian policy, weigh heavier than the pain and disappointment caused by the failure of some. It is on the future that Jordan has focused its eyes, and this is where future lies. The legacy of the past is behind us and there is nothing we can do about it. But the future is yet to be made.

### COMMENTARIES

ACTS OF vandalism and rampaging committed by extremist Zionists in Jerusalem over the past few days were not a mere expression of protest against President Arafat's visit to Jericho and Gaza but rather a realisation by the Zionists that their hope of fulfilling their dream of holding on to all the lands of Palestine was being dashed. According to Ibrahim Al Absi, a columnist in Al Rai, the Zionist leadership's return signalled the beginning of the end of the occupation and the destruction of the Jewish state. It is true that the Oslo and Cairo agreements between the Palestinians and the Israelis did not achieve everything for the oppressed people of Palestine, but at least, said the writer, they paved the ground for continued Palestinian struggle to attain the ultimate goal of Palestinian statehood and independence. Mr. Absi said that the Zionists realise that these agreements would by no means stand in the way of the Palestinian strife to attain their goals and hence own dreams in the land of Israel and building a greater Israel.

Whether the Zionist leadership should now use the occasion and prove to the world that they are indeed worthy of ruling over the land of Israel and protect their own interests and dreams, is another matter.

On the other hand, the ongoing events in Yemen, a columnist in Al Rai, said that those who conspired against Yemen's unity now find themselves facing defeat and frustration. Tariq Masarweh said that certain Arab forces who conspired against Iraq have tried their hand in splitting up Yemen with the help of enemy and colonialist forces, but their dream has been dashed by the determination of the Yemeni people to protect their unity and their country's territorial integrity. The writer said the enemies of Yemen's unity had wanted to add the southern sector of Yemen to the other sheikhdoms.

### View From Academia

By Dr. Ahmad Y. Majdoubeh

## Traffic situation — the need for police action

I DON'T believe that the traffic situation in the Kingdom is as hopeless to remedy as some think. In my opinion, we do not need more studies, more plans, more strategies, more laws, more technology, more police manpower or more punitive acts than we already have. People who emphasise some or all of these miss the point by a long shot.

Sure, all of these measures and proposals will ultimately help improve the traffic condition, which is worsening noticeably these days. However, two points ought to be stressed at the outset regarding such measures and proposals. First, most of them do not touch the heart of the matter, being prescribed either for marginal or for minor aspects of the traffic problem. Secondly, most are long-term. What concerns us most immediately and urgently today is not the future improvement of the traffic situation but a speedy prevention of the present deterioration.

They way I see it, there is one crucial cause of the problem and one effective solution, no more, no less. The problem lies, frankly, in the absence of a rigorous application of the law on the part of the police. On paper, our traffic rules, regulations and laws look good indeed. We may need some amendments, modifications or additions here and there, but the overall, textual picture is sound. The solution lies in the translation of these rules, regulations and laws into daily realities.

Of course, we can attribute the increase in the number of road accidents to many factors: poor road conditions, occasional mechanical failure, absence of healthy road ethics, motorists' irresponsibility, etc. This we admit. And yet, shall we wait until all our roads are made safe, until we all buy brand new cars and until our motorists become observant of traffic rules? Definitely not. What is required now, more than anything else and without any procrastination, is police action. This is the case plain and simple.

Under the general umbrella of police action, three specific acts must be given utmost priority:

1. Police visibility and presence. It is a well-known fact that the population of Jordan has dramatically increased since the early nineties, due (especially) to the return of many Jordanians from abroad following the Gulf war. Naturally, road activity has also increased tremendously; we have more vehicles and motorists on our roads than we ever had. Clearly, the more vehicles and motorists there are on the road, the more traffic policemen there ought to be. The sad thing here is not just that the heavy increase in road activity has not been matched by a similar increase in police presence but that police presence (for a reason we cannot understand) has in fact decreased. There are so many key traffic lights, cross-roads, intersections and circles in our towns and cities and many major highways in the Kingdom without any serious traffic patrol or surveillance. Why? Even in countries where motorists are less reckless than ours and more respectful of road signs, police patrol is quite intense. A friend of mine claims, and I tend to agree with him, that at least 85 per cent of traffic violations in the more developed societies are spotted and dealt with properly; in our society, the percentage is at best 15. Why? Because the traffic police in the latter case are most often not there.

I wish not to be misunderstood here. I am not proposing more tickets or more punishment of violators. No, for we have enough of this. What I wish to insist upon, rather, is more police visibility and presence to prevent violations and accidents. The role of the police is not to punish but to prevent. To this end, we want heightened police presence, especially in the busy sections of our towns and cities and all along our major highways and not just here and there. Is it too unrealistic to have a vigilant policeman stand at each of the three dangerous circles in Irbid to direct traffic? Is it too much to ask for two active police cars to patrol (not just stand in one or two places) the Amman-Irbid highway? I say vigilant and active because we do not want police presence to be symbolic, for at times there is a policeman but he is standing there as if traffic does not concern him in any way.

2. Special attention to conduct on the part of public transport motorists. We want traffic police to pay special attention to the practices of most bus and taxi drivers. These motorists, much more so than others, are (I am sorry to say) extremely irresponsible, reckless, obnoxious and rude. My gut feeling (on the basis on my experience with the road) is that they either directly cause or contribute to most major accidents. They stop to pick up passengers or drop them off in the middle of the road, they rarely use signals, they do not give right of way to others, they do not observe road signs and they speed maniacally. In short, they abuse the road, the passengers and other fellow motorists in every possible way. Why? Because few policemen are watching their road behaviour carefully.

3. Removal of large vehicles from residential areas. I have never seen, except in a developing society like ours, huge buses, trucks, tanks and bulldozers roam freely, day and night, in residential areas. People use these ugly and extremely life-threatening vehicles when they go to a wedding, when they attend a soccer game and when they go on a picnic. At the end of the day, they park these "monsters" amid people's homes, poisoning the air we breathe, slaughtering or crippling our children and causing traffic accidents. This is truly a joke. When are we going to do something about these vehicles? When are we going to remove them from amidst our homes to make life in many of our residential areas, especially the less fortunate ones, livable?

Let's not dream about a perfect traffic situation, for there is no perfection in this world. The three measures I am proposing here, which are aspects of one big measure, are enough to remedy the traffic plague from which we are all suffering. There is enough warning in the Nua'ameh bus disaster. If the three drivers involved in the said accident had even a suspicion that a policeman might be somewhere out there watching, the disaster would most probably have been averted — for whether we like it or not, respect of traffic laws is tied in the minds of most motorists in our society to police presence.

We have been beating around the bush long enough regarding the traffic condition. It is time to hit the nail on the head, and call a spade a spade.

## N. Yemen shows no sign of flagging

By James Anderson  
Reuters

SANAA — After two gruelling months of civil war, President Ali Abdullah Saleh's Northern Yemeni government is close to achieving a prime military objective.

It has all but reduced the southern port of Aden to a condition in which it cannot be considered the viable capital of an independent state.

Vast areas of eastern Yemen, including the Masila oilfield in Hadramawt province, remain in southern hands.

And the government in Sanaa has not yet found a way to square its promise to heed U.N. demands for a ceasefire with its rejection of any truce plan that might give tokens of legitimacy to secessionist southern leaders.

But Aden, the capital of South Yemen before it merged with North Yemen in 1990, is under tight siege and close to dying of thirst.

The city's agony by shell-fire, deprivation and the threat of disease wins no friends for Sanaa in the outside world, although pro-unity Yemenis describe Aden civilians as hostages of the secessionists rather than victims of the north.

If water is trucked in by the Red Cross, however, or a pipeline is repaired from water sources in northern hands, as Sanaa has proposed, Aden's 400,000 people will be dependent on the north's good will for their survival.

Northern forces in the suburbs are also close to making the airport unusable, government sources in Sanaa report.

They say that such gains might be sufficient to make a truce feasible, although it is unclear whether Mr. Saleh, strongly urged by the West not to storm the city, has really made up his mind.

Whether a ceasefire around a virtually captive city could be any more effective than the many that have already failed is equally in doubt.

The north has also captured a huge central section of the former South Yemen and key ground from which it could launch fresh campaigns against Mukalla, the port city which is the capital of Hadramawt, and in the eastern interior against the Hadramawt valley and the Masila oilfields.

food and other gifts for northern troops.

Government officials say they sometimes have trouble keeping civilians from going to war on their own.

Naji Abdul-Rah Al Mithrawi, 60-year-old army pensioner with a grey beard and an erect but scrawny frame, took up arms without orders when the fighting began in May.

"I was a soldier since I was young," he told a visitor to a Sanaa hospital where he was recovering from a bullet wound in the shoulder. "I just wanted to save unity."

"Saleh is not going to run out of men willing to fight and die for unity," says a western analyst. "He's got a million of them."

"But can he pay for a long war?" asks another, who thinks that a stubborn defence of Hadramawt by secessionists armed and funded from abroad might drag the conflict out for years.

### LETTERS



### The real Zulu king

To the Editor:

What has become of the Zulu King? As you see from the above photograph, which appeared in a South African newspaper on June 17, 1994, King Goodwill Zwelithini had a much more youthful appearance just 18 days ago. Affairs of state have been known to age men in high office, but seldom that quickly!

I do not know how the Zulu depicted on page 7 of the Jordan Times, July 5, 1994, would react to the knowledge that he was seen by Jordanian readers as the king of his nation, but I'm sure the king himself would have preferred to see his own picture above the caption.

I trust that you will be in a position to correct this mistake.

A B Greenham,  
Charge d'Affaires,  
South African Embassy,  
Amman.

Editor's note: The Jordan Times stands corrected and wishes the Zulu King, Goodwill Zwelithini, continued youthful appearance.

## Arafat's return — a litmus test for a leader and a people

From G.B. Jansen in Jericho

Though it lasted only four days, Yasser Arafat's visit to the Gaza Strip and Jericho produced a whole variety of changes and resonances.

"This is the beginning" were the words inscribed on one of the welcoming arches through which Yasser Arafat, the president of Palestine, according to the Palestinians, and the chairman of the PLO, according to the Israelis, passed when he returned home after nearly 27 years on July 1. And if it was the beginning of something it was also the end of something else: "the Palestinian revolution," led outside Palestine by the PLO under its chairman. The PLO with its chairman now resident inside has become part of that inside, as an administration and no longer as a revolutionary movement.

But will the chairman accept this change and sit still in an office in Palestine? That would mean a tremendous change from his hitherto totally nomadic lifestyle. Like so much else, this "is left to be seen."

This visit should mark the end of what may be called the "era of kufiyah." In gatherings of thousands of Palestinians only one person could be observed wearing the distinctive black and white checked headgear draped in a very quaint fashion: "Mr. Palestine" himself.

He wears this headcloth plus his quasi-military uniform to give the impression — a false impression — that he is still a resistance leader; this pathetic pretense is now out of date. The real heroes of the revolution — the young men and women who threw the stones in the intifada — wear their own sort of uniform of jeans and T-shirts and trainer shoes, wearing the kufiyah only drawn across their faces as disguise.

If the events of the five days prove something beyond any doubt it is that the PLO cannot organise anything: every event was a chaotic shambles which Palestinians, journalists and guests took in good part — the general euphoria which cannot be repeated.

This inefficiency was most glaringly revealed at the welcoming ceremonies in Jericho on July 5 when, despite repeated personal pleas from Arafat himself to the young men in his audience to let him speak, they preferred to continue with their shrill whistling and shouting of slogans: A lack of leadership and of discipline that was both shameful and depressing.

Part of the blame for the shambles was due to Arafat's notorious unpunctuality and unpredictability, which he will have to correct; part also was due to the fact that his life was threatened by both Israelis and angry Palestinians, so that security was doubly strict and no advance information would be given on his movements or programme — especially not over the phone. It was a journalists' nightmare. This obsessive security will also have to be changed if he is to function normally, like an efficient leader.

His security men and his immediate entourage will also have to be changed; not its leading members like Nabil Shaath, now his principal advisor, but the swarm of second and third-rank bureaucrats who have hedged him in and who, to keep themselves in jobs, insist that he must see and sign every scrap of paper on every issue, however trivial. If he is going to be resident in one place for any length of time his increased accessibility will reveal the obstructiveness of these red-tape-worms.

If the four-day events were revealing of Palestinian organisational weaknesses, they were equally revealing of flaws and peculiarities in the Israeli position, the comparatively near proximity of Arafat this time — a mere 40 or 50 or 60 miles away instead of the hundreds when he was in Tunis, brought the vicious, dangerous and violent

lent Zionists out of their worm-holes to display their blind hatred. This is how protesters were asked to attend the biggest protest meeting ever in Jerusalem on Saturday: "Spend Saturday in Jerusalem to defend Israel's eternal capital from the world's premier terrorist, the murderer is coming!!"

What has happened is that, ironically, the Zionist "activists" have so demoralised Arafat that he now scares them out of their wits. Hence, it is assumed that Arafat in Gaza and Jericho means, inevitably, Arafat in Hebron and Bethlehem and then, inescapably, in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, and then the end of the Jewish state.

The more rational Israelis are baffled by this, defeatism because it is totally irrational, and yet it has an explanation: One Israeli military commentator questioned why Israel, with one of the best armies in the world and as airforce second to none and an efficient navy, was defeated by youngsters armed only with stones. Which only shows that that military commentator had not understood the dictum of Napoleon that in war the spiritual is to the material as three to one.

The boys and girls with stones were fighting for liberty, the Israelis to maintain an illegal and alien occupation. The Israelis would have no cause to fear the Palestinians if they simply removed their occupation quickly, which however still continues and is being dragged out for at least two more years.

The clever, talented Israelis have become like those strange people who watch horror films because they enjoy being frightened. Or is this acceptance of a doomday scenario further proof of the truth of the cliché: "All bullies are cowards?"

Whatever the reason, cowardice or a guilty conscience towards the Palestinians, Israel, during the five days of Arafat's visit, displayed itself in the unique role of a timid victorious conqueror.

What really scared the present Israeli government was that the Zionist opposition was not so much protesting Arafat's presence or his future plans but that, on the night of July 2, it was plotting a violent revolt against the democratic system in Israel: this truly scary and very serious accusation was made by no less a person than the imperturbable Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. Arafat has done Israel a great favour if his visit has alerted the democrats of the possible threat posed to the state by the Zionist fascists. If the Israeli democracy survives and a Palestinian democracy is established, that could be a real bridge between the two people.

The Palestinian critics of Arafat have not been swept off their feet by the waves of popular adulation that have poured over the leader. All that they have done, these critics say, is to grant him a reprieve of a few months, six at most, to see whether, in practice, he really means his fine words about democracy and whether he will change from autocrat to democrat. The test case, a very clear one, will be whether he allows a free and fair election to be held in October or whether he will try and rig the result or postpone it. But he will not be allowed to get away with any such tricks because the Palestinian people have witnessed too many free and fair elections in Israel. We will know whether or not Arafat has made the transition from "revolution" to "reconstruction" when he abandons his kufiyah and his uniform.

Arafat is going to discover that being back home may be a very fine thing but that it also means he will, for the first time, be under the close, direct scrutiny of his people. The long-lasting, long-distance love affair between the people and their leader is now finally over.

Dr. Ahmad Y. Majdoubeh

## Jordanian theatre experiences a rebirth

By Mohammad Mashariqah

It would not be an exaggeration to say that this year's Jordanian Youth Theatre Festival would leave its impression on the Jordanian theatre movement and constitute a remarkable turning point in the Kingdom's cultural life.

The new generation of Jordanian theatre groups do not believe in symbols to express opinions on stage as had been the practice for many years due to the prevailing political circumstances at the time.

Through symbols rather than open and free expression of views many poor theatre activities and plays were presented to the audience in the past, prompting many journalists to level severe criticism at theatre groups in Jordan.

It has to be noted here that criticism levelled against poor shows on stage in the past four years has paved the way for the emergence of quite reasonable developments in theatre work. One aspect of developments could be found in the new trend towards clarity and serious acting away from oration, slogan and politicisation and were catering to the

satisfaction of the young and the old.

Therefore it was not surprising to see a group of directors, actors and musicians excelling in this year's youth theatre festival. So far we have watched five performances in which the classic academic techniques were used.

Faisal Zoubi, who presented the play *The Stronger*, and Thiyab Shahin, with his *Over There On The Coastland*, have obviously faced a very strenuous challenge in presenting their plays in a classical manner, serving in a clear departure from the hitherto prevailing traditions.

### AMMAN CULTURAL PULSE

Indeed Shahin has succeeded in rehabilitating the role of the actor and actress on stage through his fine work of art.

Shahin has succeeded in transforming the script of the play written by Fathi Abdul Rahman into real life embodied in the characters who were met with standing ovations in two successive presentations.

*Over There On The Other Coastland* relates the tale of an Arab family that has emigrated to America seeking a better future and a decent life.

But once the children have grown up, a struggle starts between the parents and the children over concepts and values that have different dimensions in America than in the Arab World.

The struggle is terminated with the parents' divorce and the son (Jalal-Jack) indulging in drug addiction and the daughter (Salwa-Sally) taking up prostitution as a profession.

The son dies trying to seize part of his father's inheritance while the daughter abandons the household.

"Cursed be on the life in the diaspora. Tomorrow I will buy you tickets to fly back to our hometown where you will marry off the son and daughter to relatives there," says the father. But the father who meets with total failure later changes his mind and decides to try his luck again in the new land. He seeks a divorce in order to marry his young American girlfriend and finally leaves his household.

Sally, the daughter, discovers that her mother has

been stealing from her father's store and has opened a private bank account, believing that her husband would eventually desert her. The mother eventually leaves the house leaving behind a blind girl called Sophy who tries to retain the family unity by finding pretexts to justify her parents' behaviour.

"I realise the hardships of life here but we can do something and save what we can save," says Sophy. Shahin has chosen a wrestling ring to serve as a stage for the play with the audience surrounding the stage to closely watch the events.

He presented the mental and psychological struggle as a struggle for life among wrestlers on the stage and has succeeded in projecting the right characters, talents and particularly the gifts of actress Nazireh Adib who played the role of the blind daughter.

Background music for the play, composed by Walid Al Hashim, added to its success which is regarded as an embodiment of academic musicians' cooperation with theatre in Jordan.

These new works signal the birth of a new and different kind of plays that are bound to positively affect the theatre movement in the Kingdom.



Nazireh Adib and Mustapha Abu Humud in the play *Over There On The Coastland*



Tahani Abdul Rahman (right) and Mustapha Abu Humud in the play *Over There On The Coastland*

## Jasoor quarterly magazine — a daring project

By Muhammad Daoud Tahboub

In modern times it has become vital for any culture to build up bridges with other existing cultures in order to form a solid basis for a better understanding among nations, better emotional ties, for elimination of cause of war and thus for spreading a long-sought peace. Therefore, inter-cultural link is indispensable and ever important factor in modern world. It should be noted that economic or commercial relations between different nations are not substitutes as some theories are trying to assert. They may be beneficial for a while for a certain period of time but they do not have the power of continuity and drive as cultural interpenetrations. Here stems the necessity of cultural institution and establishments because presentation on one's culture is an art, and there comes the role of specialised magazines, like the new quarterly magazine *Jasoor* which is a right move in the right direction in the field.

Edited in Bethesda, USA, it started since 1993 to pave the way towards achieving a cherished goal of acquainting the Western public and immigrants of Arab origin with Arab modern culture in its new trends and creativity. Edited in both English and Arabic, it succeeded so far in putting before readers a wide range of literary, historical, social and artistic topics and thus it attracted fans of renowned names of the World of Arabic culture today and great Western thinkers as well.

The fourth and the latest edition this study is trying to review contains works and essays of such thinkers

and poets as Roger Garaudy, Husain Mu'enes, Daniel Moore, Jabra Ibrahim Jabra, Mahmoud Darwish, Khalil Khouri, Mohammad Afifi Matar... etc.

Topics of this edition are not ordinary essays to be found in other non-specialised magazines. They are rather academic and highly intellectual studies. Each one is a serious thorough and informative study in its field which affords not just mental enjoyment of reading but unquestionably adds, in an accumulative fashion, to one's knowledge and education; that is in addition to the interesting contents of these topics.

Al Akash (Munir) *The Tree of Universe* is a well-referenced and daring probe in the origin of life and though in many respects it reflects the writer's own conception of existence which he tries to cement with prevailing scientific outlooks and logic, it remains a valuable and an invitation-for-all-minds-to-attend essay since it looks like a banquet of ideas. "Our modern physics, which dreams of the absolute, has begun to form the natural religion of the human experience in the Universe..." Garaudy's *Which Kingdom Has Jesus Proclaimed?* is a new outlook of its kind and content. It is a mental as well as a spiritual journey in a suit-like manner and attire and although it is said that Garaudy embraced Islam, his essay in some places doesn't reflect the Islamic attitude concerning this matter. "This future is open for us not by returning to the worldly life of a Christ who was crucified for one day two thousand years ago..." or "by Christ's death he saved us from fear of death..." etc.

The reader can't but admire the courage of this

magazine in admitting different subjects reflecting different philosophical and ideological stands as if to say "ours is a free platform for all creative minds to share." Al Faruqi's essay *Islam and Zionism* for example suggests that the right solution to the Jewish problem is not in founding a Jewish state with pure Jewish authority among a sea of Arabs and Muslims because such a state, though now can, by power of weapons and constant Western support, uphold its security and well being can't continue forever and at a certain stage in the future such security can be shattered in a minute. So the only secured life the Jews will ever have is in an Islamic justice-oriented state where the rights of People of the Book are guaranteed by Sharia, not by moods of different regimes or systems.

Selected works of famous poets find their proper place in this edition with fine extraordinary translation into English. *Psalms* of Mahmoud Darwish adorn the English first pages.

I tried to paint a name for an olive tree around a waist, and a star propagated

\*\*\*

O homeland which recurs in slaughters and in songs

Why do I smuggle you from airport to airport

Like the opium

The white ink,

And the transmitter

Khalil Al Khouri's *The Stranger* finds its place and

way to readers' hearts

O Jesus Christ  
When you roam  
In the streets of Hebron  
Or Bethlehem lanes,  
In the coldness of this night  
And wander from Beit Ania and Bir Zeit  
Envelope yourself  
With your woolen cloak  
For the night is snowing  
And the wind is blowing

The great Egyptian poet Mohammad Afifi Matar demonstrates his experience in prison in sensitive, fine and heart-touching verses. In *Celebration Of The Savage Mummy* we read:

An eternity of darkness or a night gathering  
The blackness of the kohl and far from calamities  
dust of Time?  
Your eyes under a tied headband, its knot sinking  
Into your skull, and you battered  
...O last of the captives and no redeemer  
Your country stormed, its wind, and sand led into  
captivity  
And this night begins...

One essay is indeed not enough to cover the wealth of subjects in this magazine. We hope it shall continue to succeed in its endeavour as it has done till now.

## No sex please, we're Indian

By M. Nayan Swamy  
Agency: Fance Presse

NEW DELHI — India may be shedding years of protectionism, but the country which gave the world the *Jama Sutra* is apparently not yet ready for an onslaught of magazines in which women shed their clothes.

The press of the editor of the glossy adult monthly *Fantasy* has divided this largely conservative society between those who advocate free circulation of publications featuring nude women and those who want them outlawed. Author and journalist Khushwant Singh comes

clearly down on the side of those who oppose India's obscenity laws and consider them archaic.

"There is so much hypocrisy about obscenity in the country," moaned Mr. Singh, who is an editorial advisor to *Fantasy*, one of the new publications posing a challenge to the obscenity statutes.

*Fantasy*, like most other such magazines, features centrefolds and pin-ups of partially-clad Indian women and carries advertisements from persons seeking sex partners.

Scores of other such publications, many crudely printed, in virtually all

Indian languages sell like hotcakes on pavements and in railway and bus stations for five rupees (15 cents) to 100 rupees (\$3).

Mr. Singh, whose writings are heavily laced with sexual innuendo, said there should be no curbs on magazines such as *Fantasy* as long as the *Kama Sutra*, India's oldest sex manual, could be freely bought in bookstores.

He was among several leading journalists who denounced the June 16 arrest of *Fantasy* editor Vicky Bhargava in the northern city of Allahabad on charges of publishing obscene photographs.

Bhargava, who was freed on bail a day later,

said the semi-nude pictures featured in *Fantasy* and its sister publication *Fun* were well "within the reasonable limits of decency as permitted by the Indian law."

Not everyone agrees. "Fantasy is an insult to women," said Malvika Pandey, who heads a women's group that has been campaigning for the cancellation of its publishing license.

Kalpna Mehta, a women's activist, said she was not opposed to nudes. "There is no point in being prudish about it," she said. "There are good nudes, good classical nudes. We do not have

problems with that. But if the sex magazines go beyond erotica, they should be banned."

Sales of the adult magazines are permitted by varied interpretations of the obscenity laws. Some police officers said they do not seize allegedly pornographic literature if there is no display of public hair.

But *Playboy* and *Penthouse* still get impounded by customs.

In May, an Indian clone of *Playboy* was asked to stop publication by a court here after *Playboy* Enterprises Inc. alleged it was trying to pass itself off as the original.

"*Playboy* has a readers'

page about their sexual fantasies, articles about sexual and social ills, cartoons relating to sex, interviews, centrefolds and nude and semi-nude pictures," said Pravin Anand, a lawyer for *Playboy*.

Editors, activists and police admit that the magazines that show women in various states of undress sell because of demand.

"There is great market demand," said Bharat Malik, editor and publisher of *Playway*, which was launched in January and sells some 30,000 copies. "All kinds of people read it, even the old,

the women..."

"Just as the government is liberalising, the people are also liberalising," said Malik, 30, an economics graduate. He said another magazine which he started in 1992, called *Naughty Boy*, had flopped, however.

"There is a lot of sexual awakening," said P.L. Khanna, a sexologist here. "There is a terrific change. Now even young girls bring their husband and tell us: Please doctor, do something. He is not satisfying me."

Anand, the lawyer, said that if *Playboy* was allowed in India, it would sell in the millions.

"The Indian psyche is very fond of magazines like this," he told AFP. "The Indian male has lived in a life of suppression and the truth is he likes to read these magazines."

But Prakash Kothari, the country's best-known sexologist who writes a column for the magazine *Chastity*, said the interest in sex magazines would soon wither away.

Kothari, who organised the first international conference on the orgasm here in 1991, said: "Let us wait for a couple of years. This craze will die... Just as it has happened in a city like Copenhagen."

## No time to breathe

By Jean-Claude Elias

THE world of personal computing is moving fast, very fast. The subject of this very column has often been the discussion of new software or hardware. The change in itself is not only unavoidable but necessary. The question is: Can the average PC user cope with the speed of change? Will the race to learn new software ever end?

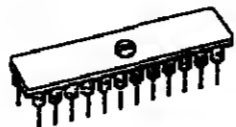
In the last three or four years, Microsoft Corporation, thanks to their Windows 3.1 operating environment, have been able to make the PC friendlier. All those allergic to the harshness of the DOS (Microsoft Disk Operating System) commands have found solace in the pleasant, easy, yet powerful Windows system.

The current version is well tuned, virtually bug-free (no programming errors) and has made millions of users worldwide shift from DOS to Windows applications. The early Windows version however left people frustrated, because of operating problems, and thirsty for better performance. Everybody therefore welcomed the series of Windows that gradually solved most of the difficulties encountered in the early versions. Nobody refused to make the effort to adapt, and finally version 3.1 was reached.

Now that we have all become familiar, proficient with Windows 3.1 and are living happily with it, Microsoft is announcing Windows 4.0, code named "Chicago". The commercial release of the product is scheduled for the end of this year.

Windows 4.0, promise Microsoft will be better, faster, more powerful, friendlier and all the other attributes we now know! It will not necessarily require more hardware

## chip talk



than operating now, but will make better use of the 32-bit structure of processors like Intel's 80486 and Pentium (80586). Version 4.0 will have slightly different screens and the folders and icons will not exactly be the same. New ways to learn, again! Actually, as a columnist in "Windows Magazine" puts it, we will have to "unlearn Windows 3.1".

Microsoft can give us a thousand reasons to have a better Windows and they would be right. Nobody said that version 3.1 was absolutely perfect. However, aren't the users tired of learning new software again and again? Shouldn't they be given the time to breathe, to enjoy a piece of software for a few years before moving to a new one?

Knowing the quality of Microsoft work and the "programmed transition" they put in their systems, we can hope that moving from Windows 3.1 to 4.0 won't be a painful operation. We do not have much choice anyway. The last issues of both PC Magazine and Windows Magazine (July 1994) introduce the new comer as a "must", something that is going to be "the future of personal computing for the years to come."

## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

By Mohammad A. Shuqair

### LET'S CHAT IN ARABIC

- Where do you live? Ayna tasken?
- Where did you come from? Min ayna atayt?
- Where have you been? Ayna kont?
- Where were you born? Ayna wolidta?
- Where is your father? Ayna walidok? (abook)
- Where are the documents? Ayna al-wathaa'iq?
- Where is the post office? Ayna maktab al-bareed?
- Where do you work? Ayna taamal/tashtaghi?
- Where is Tabarboor? Ayna Tabarboor (a place near Amman)
- Where did you buy this shirt from? Min ayna ishtarayta hazal kammes?
- Where will you stay in London? Ayna satokeem fee London?
- Where are the Pyramids? Ayna al-Ahramat?

### JOKES

- ★ DOCTOR TO PATIENT: "You are a great deal better this morning. I see. You evidently followed my instructions and that prescription must have worked wonders. But you haven't taken any of the medicine!"

PATIENT: "No. You see, it says on the label — keep the bottle tightly corked."

- ★ HUSBAND: It says in this article that over 5,000 camels are used each year to make paint brushes.

WIFE: "Isn't it amazing what they can teach animals to do nowadays?"

- ★ A candidate who failed the election campaign was eventually persuaded to attend a party in honour of his successful competitor.

At the close of the ceremony, he was asked to deliver a short speech.

He said: "I heartily congratulate those who competed with me since they are extremely truthful. They claimed they would defeat me by the way of a stupid person. This is really what they've already done."

- ★ YOUNG MAN: "I think I had seen you before and talked to you."

YOUNG GIRL: "Maybe you're right. I'm a nurse at a lunatic asylum!"

### BELIEVE IT OR NOT

- The shortest boxing match lasted just 10 and a half seconds in 1946 between R. Walton and A. Coutour.

- It is astonishing to learn that an ant can lift much more weight than man. Average man can lift a little more than his own weight, whereas an ant can lift 50 times his own weight.

- Some peculiarities of number nine appear hereunder and all the answers add up to several eights.

$$\begin{aligned}
 1 \times 9 + 7 &= 88 \\
 98 \times 9 + 6 &= 888 \\
 987 \times 9 + 5 &= 8888 \\
 9876 \times 9 + 4 &= 88888 \\
 98765 \times 9 + 3 &= 888888 \\
 987654 \times 9 + 2 &= 8888888 \\
 9876543 \times 9 + 1 &= 88888888 \\
 98765432 \times 9 + 0 &= 888888888
 \end{aligned}$$

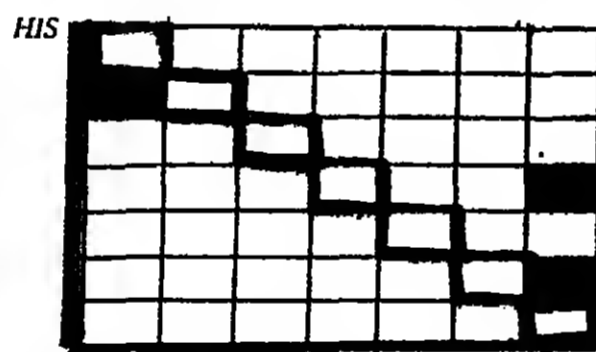
— Many people would think that farming is the oldest industry — in fact, the oldest industry is the production of chopping tools and axes, known as "flint knapping" which started about 1,750,000 years ago!

★ ★ ★

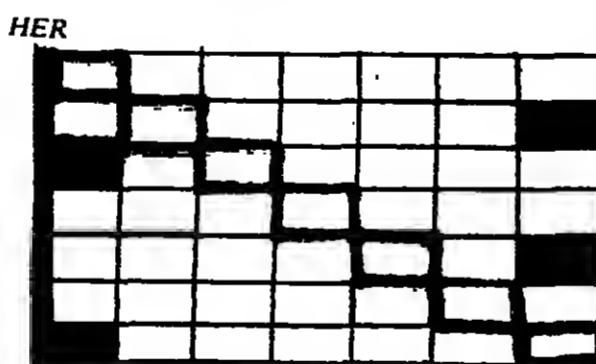
### PUZZLES

#### (A) FIND THE PARTNER

When the seven names — given in a mixed-up order — are correctly placed in the horizontal lines, the letters in the diagonal spell out the name of the missing partner.



ERNEST/CORINNE  
BERTRAM/AUDREY  
CLIFTON/ROBERTA  
JOSEPH/?



ADELINE/HAROLD  
ELINOR/RUDOLPH  
SYDNEY/DESMOND  
MARTHA/?

(B) BREAD LINE:  
A baker has three files of loaves, buns and rolls on display. The total of the four pieces in each file is marked at its bottom.

LOAVES	BUNS	ROLLS
gr. 1050	gr. 780	gr. 690

What is the respective weight of a loaf, a bun and a roll?

### BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

1. What are monsoons, trade winds, simoons, the fohn, and the sirocco?
2. Name FIVE famous people who were blind during part, or all, of their lives?
3. How is a Pope elected? How is the Archbishop of Canterbury chosen?

London are the following statues to be found? — Eros, Rima, Peter, Pan, Ham Lincoln.  
The following creatures are insects? — Wood-house, dung-beetle, lizard, wasp, etc. flea, shrimp, centipede.

## Trucks, squatters and sewage

By E. Yaghi

Not too far from where the corn vendor stands, a large circle, which if properly taken care of, would more resemble a park, accommodates weary shoppers, or tired travellers, groups of children of all ages and at night, families, out to bask in the cool evening breeze that results the leaves of trees and dishevels garments. Often, a broken water line gushes onto the main street which encompasses the circle and remains unrepaired for days on end. Those who experience water shortages would likely wonder at how such water runs uncontrolled in the street while many haven't an adequate supply at all to drink. As if that's not enough, unchecked sewage every now and then pours down the asphalt stenching and soaking a path of germs, disease and filth as cars splash the morbid river onto the sidewalks and unsuspecting pedestrians.

Just around the corner, a group of trucks lurk in waiting for possible business. It is rather ironic that not only is their parking illegal, but that it is right next to a bank and these drivers, some of whom may be unsavory characters have the best opportunity to not only observe all goings on at the bank, but also at the surrounding houses. For example, after a while, these drivers know the occupants of each house and at what time individuals arrive and depart their premises and who their visitors happen to be. Sometimes, policemen fine these truck drivers and completely remove them from the residential neighbourhood, but after a day or so, they reappear again like some kind of unfortunate magic and resume their disturbance to the disgust of all around and to the nonchalance of traffic officers.

As if this isn't enough, right in the middle of a street that's official but still in blueprint form, some squatters' homes are blessed somehow with all kinds of services like electricity, water and even sewage. How

they could be supplied with such services is very puzzling for in the first place, before anyone can be supplied with any utilities, they must have a licence for their homes which in this case is impossible, because they have built their shacks right in the middle of a street that is to connect together major parts of the Amman. Not only are these houses illegal, but the owners also illegally rent to persons with disreputable looking appearances, and have even built second stories onto their houses and some operate small chicken farms which also require licences.

Squatters' shacks just don't sit in an area where licences for houses cost as much as JD 10,000 and over and any owner living on the circle who builds one line and another extra is harshly fined. If the municipality is concerned about the welfare of such squatters, then it is their duty to supply them with alternative housing.

The application of laws in helter-skelter fashion harms the image of our country. If one man has to have a licence to build, then every man must accordingly have a licence before he lays one brick. If he man has to have a licence for his house before it is supplied with water and electricity, then every home owner must produce such a licence before it is accorded such services. Further, if an area is residential or even semi-commercial, truck drivers should not be allowed to park their vehicles there. They just have a special area where they are allowed to leave their base and stick to it.

Also, water and sewage should not be allowed to run at random in city streets. As for neighbours' complaints with the municipality concerning leaking sewage systems, broken water pipes, the parking of truck drivers in residential areas and unsightly squatter shacks, there have been groups of neighbours who even went in person to the municipality but to no avail for no one was listening, no one cares to listen and things remain just as they have been.

## JTV CHANNEL 2

### WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday, July 7

8:30 Bony

Crash Course

Bony and Bev begin a torturous trek across the desert with a modern-day Bonnie and Clyde who terrorise the lands, after their plane crash-lands and the captain is killed.

10:20 Movie Of The Week — Jane's House

Mary, a step mother, has the tough task of persuading her husband's children to accept her as a friend; but it seems the children's real mother, who is dead, seems to maintain a presence in the house, and in her children's souls.

Friday, July 8

9:00 E.N.G.

To Kill With Kindness

Channel 10 editor Marge receives the footage of a knifing incident involving her son Kevin. Michael's professional ethics would make him decide whether he plays or destroys the tape.

10:20 Emilie

Despite all objections, Emilie succeeds in her attempt to stage a school play and gets her father's long-sought blessings.

11:10 Three's Company

Gigolo Jack

Saturday, July 9

7:05 World Cup soccer match

Live from Boston

9:00 The Fresh Prince Of Bel-Air

Countering Disaster

William encounters fame and success in a basketball game; but at home, he encounters disaster.

9:30 The Campbells

Emma's name gets on the newspaper pages, as she takes up writing; her main concern is on defenceless animals.

10:00 News In English

10:20 World Cup Football Match

Sunday, July 10

7:05 World Cup Football Match

9:00 Stolen Lives

Dawn hesitates to tell Mike about his baby, and locates her real mother's school; her flashback, however, takes her back to a cruise in the sea.

10:00 News In English

10:20 World Cup Football Match

Monday, July 11

8:30 The Nanny

Plot For Nanny

Nanny celebrates her 30th birthday, and receives an unexpected gift from her mother... through which she meets a man?

9:00 Jordanesque

A local programme, hosted by Jerus Samawi

- 1- A visit to the rose red city of Petra
- 2- A visit to the wonderful Wadi Rum and an experience of staying the night in a camp.
- 3- The newly established "jeep race" in Wadi Rum organised by a Spanish racing team.

9:10 Documentary — Climate Change Complaint

10:00 News In English

10:20 G.P.

Loose Ends

William, the head of the clinic, is surprised by the visit of his ex-wife who brings him bad news about their grandson.

Tuesday, July 12

8:30 Step By Step

Frank asks Codie whether it's love for his girlfriend or pity towards her 5-year-old-son that lies behind his marriage proposal.

9:00 Documentary — Get To Know Your Body

Scientific and medical look at the body. This week a look at nutrition and blood.

9:10 The Commish

The continuous attempts by Anthony Scalise police superintendent, to trace the perpetrator of three murders of policemen. His case rests with unexpected finding.

10:20 Matrix

Lapses In Memory

For \$2 million, Stefanie agrees to have a "memory gadget" implanted in her head in order to look back to the past, see the present and forecast the future. Little does she know that her strength will threaten her own father's life.

11:10 The Upper Hand

Just Like Charlie

Charlie should watch his words as he relates his childhood tales to young Tom... as Tom tries to win himself the second day?

Wednesday, July 13

7:15 Great Moments In Science And Technology

7:30 The F.B.I. The Untold Story

8:30 Coach

Piece Of Cake

As Haydn enjoys his new computer, Luther enjoys a new friendship he develops with a little boy.

9:30 The World Of The 30's

10:20 Poldark

Ross joins Brodie as she mourns her husband who is found dead and he tries to investigate the situation.

# Hollywood meets Silicon Valley in multi-media explosion

CHICAGO, Illinois (AFP) — In a marriage made in high-tech heaven, Hollywood is teaming up with Silicon Valley to fuel an explosion in interactive multimedia products hitting the U.S. markets.

The major film studios were out in force at a major electronics exposition in this midwestern city June 23-25, taking their place alongside editors of educational and recreational software.

Walt Disney Company has concluded licensing deals with Microsoft Cor-

poration, the world's leading software editor, and Sony Imagesoft, a subsidiary of the Japanese electronics giant.

The aim is to parlay the worldwide fame of Mickey Mouse and the other Disney characters into marketable multimedia items.

Microsoft will launch later this year a Mickey Mouse game for young children that will be available on a diskette for personal computers. Sony Image is also working with Disney on a Mickey video game.

Such linkups will likely multiply with film studios seeking new revenue-producing outlets and software editors on the lookout for heroes to sell their video wares, analysts agree.

Steven Spielberg, the movie blockbuster king who brought the world E.T., Indiana Jones and Jurassic Park, has struck a deal with knowledge Adventure Incorporated to make educational software. He also has a big stake in the firm.

For its part 20th Century Fox has established a

subsidiary, Fox Interactive, to put its film library and other productions of media magnate Rupert Murdoch's parent company News Corporation to multimedia use.

"It reflects what's happening in the industry as a whole," said Cynthia Upson, a representative of the group that mounted the exposition here. "Hollywood is meeting Silicon Valley."

Major electronics firms such as Panasonic and Philips are now focusing on multimedia equipment. Philips Media, subsidi-

ary of the Dutch group Philips Electronics N.V., has unveiled two interactive compact disk players (CD-i) priced cheaply to boost the company's share of the U.S. market.

The company is looking above all at the \$6 billion a year video game market still dominated by Nintendo and Sega.

"We are ready to give up the hardware to sell the software," said John Hawkins, the head of Philips Media.

The device plugs into a television and allows buyers to view films or

listen to audio compact disks as well as play video games.

Philips is counting heavily on the CD-i player, along with new videogames and films, to boost U.S. sales. So far, working with a three-year-old model, the company has been able to sell only 250,000 units a year.

The infatuation with multimedia has also struck telephone companies which hope to cash in on mass-appeal software as they find new ways of making money from the so-called information

super-highway.

ATT, the world leader in telecommunications, has invested heavily in 3DO, which develops video games and makes consoles.

The GTE telephone company set up a subsidiary four years ago to produce video games and unveiled at the Chicago exposition 20 games which analysts said probably cost tens of millions of dollars to develop.

One of the biggest debates in the fast-moving sector is the choice of formats for running software.

Currently three exist: the cartridges used by Nintendo, the CD-ROM adapted for personal computers and the CD-i for television proposed by Philips.

Many experts, including Ted Hoff, head of the interactive division of Fox Media, believe that multimedia purveyors will turn increasingly towards the CD-ROM in the coming years for games and educational software.

But the big question for the long term, the experts add, is how to link up computers and television.

## Honecker shocks Germans from the grave with memoirs

BERLIN (AFP) — A month after his death, former East German leader Erich Honecker pulled off a final coup from beyond the grave as his memoirs were published last week, replete with potential embarrassment for Bonn.

Honecker, who died in exile in Chile from cancer, lauded the Marxist system which he led for almost two decades as superior to that of the capitalist West, and also threw into doubt claims by German Chancellor Helmut Kohl that the leader of then West Germany never made concessions to the East Berlin regime.

Honecker praised the quality of dialogue he said existed between the two Germanies and said that, until the Berlin wall fell in November 1989, nobody

called the legitimacy of the East into question, least of all Kohl.

He further revealed that his Western opposite number paid a visit to the East in 1988 which was never made public. Having come to power in 1982, Kohl made his first official visit to the East in December 1989, after Honecker was toppled.

Honecker himself was received with all the pomp afforded to other heads of state when he attended an historic 1987 inter-German summit in the West.

The late East German leader wrote his "Moabit notes" between July 1992 and January 1993, while awaiting trial in the Berlin prison of the same name for his role in the deaths which occurred of people



Erich Honecker with his wife, Margot, while in exile in Chile prior to his death

trying to flee across the wall.

He left for Santiago de Chile with his wife Margot after the trial was stopped on health grounds as the extent of Honecker's liver

cancer became apparent.

The notes, which formed Honecker's political testament, run to 250 pages and comprise a rambling indictment of German unification along-

side a tribute to the future of socialism.

They also include details of meetings he had with various West German politicians. "The fall of the German

Democratic Republic deeply affected me, but it did not remove my faith in socialism as the only option for a humane and just society," he said in the preface to the work.

"Since capitalism has existed, the communists have belonged to the persecuted of this world," he added.

The notes were written in a simple style, full of references to the "class struggle" and the "internal contradictions" of capitalism.

The unreconstructed Honecker also attacked former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev at length for his policy of perestroika, designed to modernise communism, but which led to the demise of East Germany and the Soviet Union itself.

In addition, the author bitterly concluded there was a high-level conspiracy in the ruling communist Socialist Unity Party (SED) to get rid of him. He alleged that "proposals for Gorbachev-style change, added to the irritation of the masses and the indecision of the East Berlin leadership, finally led to the collapse of the German Democratic Republic."

He accused Mr. Gorbachev of setting in train the "dismantling of the socialist system" as soon as he entered the Kremlin in 1985, and dropping links with East Berlin to push his idea of the common European home.

Warning to his theme of plots and treason, Honecker refused to believe the system could have col-

lapsed under the weight of popular protest alone.

For him, the country he led was a model socialist state which guaranteed work for its citizens, along with cheap rents and a working social system.

In a rare show of weakness, the man who personally oversaw the building of the wall in 1961 did admit East Germans should have had a greater say in policies pursued by their leaders.

More significantly, he conceded that the East's successful campaign to destabilise the Federal Republic's Democrat Chancellor Willy Brandt in 1974 by planting spy Guenter Guillaume in Brandt's inner circle was a mistake. Brandt was forced to resign.

## Lying in state

Watergate: The Corruption And Fall Of Richard Nixon

By Fred Emery  
Cape £20 pp448

It took Richard Nixon 20 persevering years to try to live it down, but he never quite managed it. The obituarists a month ago dwell sonorously on his diplomatic successes, after all, Henry Kissinger was there to encourage them. But there were still one or two to insist that Watergate had mutilated the power of the presidency and that Nixon's foolishness was responsible. And all that time in the BBC there was nice Mr. Emery working away on a liberal update of the story.

It is an able update. There has been laborious compilation and comparison of the myriad self-seeking, rumour-strewn accounts of the Watergate break-in and cover up Emery has lived with the story ever since he covered it for The Times as its Washington bureau chief. He even indulges himself with some 10 or so personal mentions — none of them important. But he has weighed the evidence thoughtfully. He and his BBC team have even come upon an attempt by Nixon's attorney-general and friend, John Mitchell, to admit his own guilt if it saved Nixon; he got nowhere. They found, too, unshredded evidence that Nixon's chief of staff, Bob

Haldeman knew two months ahead that the Electronic surveillance plan, for which \$300 million was found, was under way. If Haldeman knew the inference, Nixon must have known.

So Emery sees no reason to change the standard liberal interpretation of the Watergate goings-on. He will not touch with a bargepole the Colsony Gestin account (in Silent Coup) that it was all devised by John W. Dean III, the Nixon counsel, and chief Judas, to earn Brownie points for his scandal-loving master. He wastes little time on tales that what the burglars were after was catching Democratic bigwigs making assignments with call-girls. He is rigorous with more speculation. "Deep Throat", with his tip-offs to the Washington Post men, is relegated to a dismissive footnote.

So Nixon stands guilty: certainly guilty of the cover-up, abusing power and obstructing justice. It is right that we should be reminded of this, especially now. But in too many ways, Emery does not begin to explain Nixon or the reasons for his actions. This is, after all, the man who in his last hours in the White House still felt able to go about telling family friends and remaining supporters. "I hope I haven't let you down," he had, of course, let down the 47 million people (a plurality of 18 million) who voted for him in 1972. But why did Nixon act as he did?

Emery rattles through the standard explanations. Nixon was obsessed because he had won in 1968 only as a minority

president. He believed he had been cheated by the Kennedy's in 1960 of the 50,000 votes in Illinois and Texas which had lost him that election. He hated the left-wing bias of the media. He distrusted the bureaucratic system. He and his people lived in Washington as in an enemy town. Emery tells us this, but in a brief and barbed way. After 20 years, he might have done better than that.

Certainly, he may say that this would mean writing a different book from the one he had in mind. He lived through Watergate: he worked for an editor, William Rees-Mogg, who was not confident that Nixon would be found to be guilty: he has every right to nail Nixon again now. But if it is true, as he tells us that, for clever young BBC producers today, Watergate is "as distant as the Napoleonic wars" and needs to be told again, it is (besides raising doubts about such producers' ability) fair to expect a wider and therefore truer perspective.

Take the American political system itself. The British do not understand it. They think the president is all that matters, and that, because elections change him, it is a two-party system. But for more than 60 years now, the Republican Party has only twice (in 1947 and 1953) had a majority in the House of Representatives. The Democrats organise everything, especially the committees that count. The Republicans seldom control the Senate either. Their relationship with the Congress is almost wholly adversarial. This is fundamental to the perennial state of grievance in which Republicans live. It also actively encourages conspiracy in both parties (illegal secrecy in one, illegal disclosure in the other).

With Nixon, the Democratic Congress took no prisoners. It detested him, as he detested it. It was also in a mood to detest all presidents: it had had enough of the imperial presidency of its own Kennedy and Johnson. It prefers weak men, and nowadays the electorate serves them up regularly: Carter, Reagan (who surprised them and the Russians), Bush, Clinton. But there is always a difference. If there were to be an attempted impeachment of the Democratic President Clinton, he would start with every committee loaded his way. It was part of Nixon's folly in 1972 that he preferred to pile up his own presidential majority to campaigning for Congressional Republicans.

To Nixon, the justification of all that he connived at or actually instigated was that he always had to fight the system. Many Republicans understand that to the end. It hardly mattered that he employed people anxious to break into the Democratic Party's offices. They wanted him to go on playing it tough. It was his eventual defiance of the courts over his own tapes, even though his burglars had carried no firearms, accepted arrest and got nowhere, that dished him with the law-and-order party.

The further consequence of fighting the system is attracting the lunatics. The Nixon camp entertained more than its share. Their ideas knew few bounds: set fire to the Brookings Institution (home of the Democrat's government-in-exile), assassinate the columnist Jack Anderson, drug Daniel Ellsberg (leaker of the Pentagon Papers) and kidnap the leaders of any demonstration at the Republican convention. They had already burgled Ellsberg's psychiatrist's office, forged a cable from the Vietnam war and been ready to bug all and sundry.

Such fantasies exist in all parties, at all times. In 1894 the Unionist Fred Crawford had planned to kidnap Gladstone on the sea front at Brighton, get him on board a fast steam yacht and hold him on a Pacific island until a change of government ended any chance of Irish home rule. It didn't happen because he couldn't raise the £10,000 he needed. There is a lesson there; even the Republicans' paranoia would not necessarily have led to the Watergate burglary if they had not had dollars to burn.

The story has few heroes. Gordon Liddy, the break-in leader who actually kept his mouth shut (until recently), is probably one. But Senator Sam Ervin, the homespun chairman of the investigating committee, ran it and its staff on ruthlessly partisan lines. He was glad to offer Dean immunity. Judge John Sirica, the toast of Georgetown, was all for exemplary sentences (otherwise anathema to liberals) more suited to terrorist bombers, not political burglars. The prospect of 30 years for entering a Watergate office was meant to break any defendant.

As it was, most of the gang were more than ready to sing anyway, both in court and in their memoirs afterwards. Emery shows conclusively how the word of almost none of them coincided with anyone else's. Their upgarication

## BOOK REVIEWS



Richard Nixon

matched their incompetence. Of course, the government agencies were frightened silly. It took a good Democratic lawyer, Archibald Cox, to prosecute and a good Republican one, Elliot Richardson, who backed him, to stand on principle. For the rest, the republic was fortunate to be assailed by mere bunglers, even though they had the president working for them — The Sunday Times.

Alastair Burnet

## Narrating their own story

Homeland: Oral Histories Of Palestine And Palestinians

Edited by Staughton Lynd, Sam Bahour and Alice Lynd.  
310 pages, \$14.95. New York: Olive Branch Press, 1994

Despite a proliferation of literature in English on the Question of Palestine, there are almost no oral histories. Usually, the closest one gets are books which rely heavily on interviews and give a partial account of particular phases of Palestinian experience. (Examples of this type include Rosemary Sayigh's *Palestinians: From Peasants to Revolutionaries* and Julie M. Peteet's *Gender in Crisis: Women and the Palestinian Resistance Movement*).

*Homeland: Oral Histories Of Palestine And Palestinians* is an attempt to fill this gap — one which does not exist by accident. The book opens with a passage by the noted scholar Edward Said, explaining some of the reasons for the scarcity of such oral history. Referring in particular to Palestinians in the West Bank, Gaza and Lebanon, he reminds us that: "The problem of survival is so great that you don't think in terms of narration, just in terms of getting through the next day" (page 3).

With this in mind, it is not surprising that the idea for *Homeland* grew out of Palestinian experience in the United States. The three editors are all members of the Youngstown (Ohio) Coalition for Peace in the Middle East. At a public meeting sponsored by this group, participants were encouraged to speak about the Middle East conflict, based on their own experience. The spontaneous testimonies given that evening spurred Sam Bahour and Staughton and Alice Lynd to begin taping interviews with Palestinians living in the United States or visiting there. Eventually it led them to occupied Palestine and Israel, where they collected stories from many more persons.

Together the interviews they collected cover most of the landmarks of Palestinian experience and are divided accordingly, by time, place or theme: 1948, the camp, 1967, women, Jordan and Lebanon, prisoners, workers and farmers, families, resistance in the occupied territories and behind the green line.

Most eloquent among the various narratives are,

those by ex-prisoners. The passages related by Salah Ta'amari about his experience in solitary confinement are especially articulate: "It was my culture that rescued me. I remembered that in our culture, time is the morning star, sunrise, noon, afternoon, and evening. It's not divided into seconds and minutes and hours. But how was I to know whether it was dawn or noon or night?... It was the twittering of birds coupled with the roar of cars on a far-away highway that told me... Being in solitary sharpened my sense of justice, of beauty, in exactly the same way that the earth sharpens the plough. The huge, tremendous fight in the solitary made me become able to act and respond quickly at Ansar" (pages 110-111).

Ta'amari gives a perceptive, lively account of how detainees organised themselves at Ansar, South Lebanon, and won the battle of nerves with their Israeli captors. Yet despite the fact that Ta'amari was chairman of the Ansar prisoners' committee, one feels a bit uncomfortable with his tendency to attribute the entire organising effort to one person — himself. Numerous other testimonies included in the book, by ex-prisoners who speak in terms of "we," ring truer, for it is obvious that collective spirit is the key to successful organising anywhere, but most especially in prison.

Besides being systematically organised, the book is painstakingly documented, mainly with references to U.S. State Department Country Reports on Human Rights Practices. It also goes to great pains to be balanced. For Palestinian readers, this may seem somewhat tedious, since they know the facts of things like Israeli torture all too well. However, the book is obviously geared to have an impact on American public opinion, where such documentation serves its purpose.

This being the case, there is still a great need for these and other chapters of Palestinian history to be narrated and recorded by and for Palestinians themselves, as part of their cultural heritage. An urgent example is the 1936 revolt, whose actors are from a generation that is fast passing away. And hopefully, the "children of the stones" will someday have the time and leisure to tell the story of the intifada in retrospect.

Sally Bland

## Spain seeks wider debate on test tube embryos

MADRID (R) — What to do with hundreds of frozen embryos left over after in vitro fertilisation? It's a tricky question for some Spanish doctors.

It is not that Spain lacks the legal framework to deal with the complex ethical issues involved in artificial reproduction.

But five years after a wide-ranging law was passed to regulate one of the 20th century's most controversial sciences, a national commission to discuss such issues, which the decree said should be set up, is still a dream.

The fate of spare embryos is just one dilemma arising from the lack of a national forum for debate.

In-vitro fertilisation (IVF) was developed to enable women with dam-

aged fallopian tubes to have children. It involves creating human embryos by uniting eggs and sperm in a laboratory and then transplanting the embryo into the womb.

Embryos which have not been used in the IVF process are put in storage, but after two years they are free to be donated. Or so Spanish law says.

In practice, clinics are reluctant to stick too closely to the legal letter because they fear donors may later turn up looking for the embryos.

"We have never proceeded to donation without the written consent of the couple, even though the law allows it," said Montse Boada, a doctor at Barcelona's Da Xeus Clinic.

The problem of spare embryos arises because the woman is hormonally stimulated to ovulate. Not every woman reacts in the same way to hormones and while one woman may produce six or seven ova, another may produce up to 30.

"When they are inseminated, depending on the levels of fertility, we could also get 20 or 30 embryos," said Doctor Amparo Ruiz of the Infertility Institute of Valencia.

Octavio Quintana, an adviser to the government health department, says the national commission is in the pipeline.

"At this moment, we are almost in agreement on this and the commission will probably be created within the next few

months."

Even more worrying for many doctors than the delay in forming the commission on artificial reproduction is the lack of a national bioethics commission to discuss more general themes.

"It is inconceivable that in a country boasting such developed techniques, there should be no national commission to act as the main advisory body," said Juan Ramon De La Cadena, head of genetics at Madrid's Complutense University.

"My opinion is that Spain should have a bioethics commission but there are many variants. It's a very open subject and no concrete model has yet been found," Dr. Quintana said.

In the absence of central guidance, Spanish clinics are forced to regulate themselves and some say this is a good thing.

"I believe the delay (in implementing) the law could have arisen partly, and I say this with great pride and satisfaction, because our centres are regulated very well," said Marcelo Palacios, a doctor and member of the advisory body which helped the government draft the 1988 law.

Dr. Ruiz does not agree. "The national commission as laid down by the law is basic and fundamental," she said.

The 1988 law also provides for the creation of a national register of clinics and banks of human gametes (reproductive cells), but this too is yet to

come into being.

Dr. Ruiz's clinic has compiled its own register. "But at a national level, I think there is no control of data and I think the majority of centres do not keep registers either," she said.

The 1988 law is largely accepted by doctors, but it has also been criticised at times for trying to go too far too fast.

"I think the Spanish law was a pioneering one. It was one of the first and it has been accused of ultra-permissiveness," said Dr. Quintana. Unlike many other countries, Spain makes artificial reproduction available to all women, not just those in couples.

"The law is adequate and progressive and to a

certain degree permissive, but it doesn't say crazy things," he added.

Dr. Ruiz also praises the law. "It is one of the most complete laws around, but when it was formulated it said it would include the designation of a national commission to deal with special problems and this is absolutely necessary."

One of the areas which most frightens Dr. De La Cadena is the possibility of unsupervised experimentation between human and animal genes, such as variations on the so-called hamster test.

He said one of the main tasks of a commission on bioethics would be authorising such scientific investigation.

The hamster test is used to examine the fertility

levels of human sperm by uniting them in a laboratory with eggs from a female hamster. It was banned by the European Council in 1984, but the ban was relaxed in 1986.

"I ask myself: If the hamster test is being carried out routinely in numerous laboratories, would it not be just as easy to fertilise the eggs of a kind of monkey with human sperm?" Dr. De La Cadena wrote in a recent paper.

"The law prohibits any other kind of experiment between human gametes and animals unless it has been authorised by the national commission and if you do not have a national commission, it leaves the door wide open."

## AIDS global cases up 60 per cent, Asia hit hard

GENEVA (R) — The World Health Organisation (WHO) has estimated the number of AIDS cases worldwide had risen by 60 per cent to four million in the year to July, and predicted a continued "explosive increase" in Asia.

The United Nations agency said the epidemic was spreading fastest in Asia, where there was an eight-fold jump in estimated cases of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), to 250,000 cases from 30,000 in July 1993.

In a semi-annual report, it estimated AIDS cases worldwide had risen to four million from 2.5 mil-

lion, with Asia's share growing to six per cent from one per cent a year ago.

"If anyone needed proof that the AIDS epidemic is established in Asia they need look no further," Michael Merson, executive director of the WHO's Global Programme on AIDS, said.

"The global AIDS epidemic is now spreading in Asia faster than anywhere else in the world. Soon more Asians than Africans will be getting infected each year," he was quoted as saying.

The largest number of estimated AIDS cases — more than 2.5 million

— is in sub-Saharan Africa. The region also has more than 10 million adults infected with the HIV virus which causes the killer disease, according to the WHO report.

An estimated 16 million adults and one million children have the HIV virus worldwide. Almost half of the three million new adult infections since a year ago have been in women.

"The end of the epidemic is nowhere in sight," who said.

The Geneva-based agency has predicted that between 30 million and 40 million people will be infected by the year 2000.

"But the epidemic ex-

pansion will be most dramatic in Asia," WHO has said.

The report said the current cumulative total of more than 2.5 million infections in Asia, with about 40 per cent of the infections in women, was expected to increase four-fold to more than 10 million infections by the year 2000.

"If effective HIV prevention programmes are not put in place, Asia will overtake Africa by the mid to late 1990s in terms of the number of newly infected people per year," it said.

Mr. Merson said: "While Africa experiences

increases in AIDS cases as a result of HIV infections that occurred about 10 years ago, south and south-east Asia are seeing an explosive increase in infections among vulnerable population groups."

Heterosexual transmission of the HIV virus has been expanding in the region, with significant levels of infection in female sex workers in several states of India, cities of Burma and "across Thailand", according to the report.

Mr. Merson was also quoted as saying he had "great concern about the serious potential" for the spread of HIV in China, which has officially re-

ported 36 cases up to last December.

WHO said 985,119 AIDS cases had been officially reported to it since the onset of the pandemic, but because of "under diagnosis, incomplete reporting and reporting delay", the true number of cases was believed to be about four million.

The latest number of AIDS cases reported by the U.S. government to WHO was 411,907, as of December 31, 1993.

The U.S. figure was 42 per cent of the total reported worldwide, but roughly 10 per cent of the estimated true total.

## WHO says leprosy can be wiped out

BANGKOK (AFP) — Leprosy, the ancient disease once synonymous with isolation colonies, could be just a memory by the end of the decade, a World Health Organisation (WHO) official has said.

But governments and health workers, faced with high-profile diseases such as AIDS and tuberculosis, are in danger of missing a "precious moment" to eliminate the disease, Dr. Shaik Noordeen told a press conference.

Dr. Noordeen, who heads the WHO leprosy unit, is to chair a four-day conference in Hanoi next week to convince policymakers, health agencies and potential financial donors of 29 countries to intensify their anti-leprosy efforts.

Some 3.1 million people are believed to have leprosy, a dramatic improvement on the 20 million cases reported just two decades ago, Dr. Noordeen said.

Multi-Drug Treatment (MDT), a decade-old therapy similar to chemotherapy for cancer, has made the condition curable within two years, said Dr. Yo Yuasa of the Tokyo-based Sasakawa Memorial Health Founda-

tion, co-sponsor of next week's event.

But some governments may still feel leprosy is "equated with backwardness or with being uncivilised," Dr. Yuasa said.

The highly visible symptoms of the condition, in which nerve-attacking bacteria cause skin to decay and, eventually, fall off, have made it an issue to be avoided, he said.

"Leprosy has been dreaded not because it kills people but because it leaves them alive with deformities," Dr. Yuasa said.

"Leprosy is not as big a problem as AIDS, for example," Dr. Noordeen said. "But there should be a political will to end it just because it can be ended."

Six countries — India, Brazil, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Burma and Nigeria — account for 85 per cent of the leprosy cases in the world, according to WHO statistics. Some 600,000 cases are diagnosed worldwide each year.

South and East Asian countries, including host country Vietnam, account for 1.6 million cases of leprosy, or about half the total number of patients receiving treatment for the disease.

## French groups launch bid to decode gene 'regulators'

PARIS (R) — French researchers launched a pioneering programme to sequence and analyse key sections of the human genetic blueprint which

control the functioning of individual genes.

Officials at the Genethon Research Laboratory and drugs firm Genetec said the work

could speed the development of new pharmaceuticals to fight many diseases, including cancer.

"The deciphering of the human genome regulatory

code should have a profound impact on the development of new therapeutic technologies for curing hereditary diseases," said Genetec chief

executive Pascal Brandys.

By understanding the regulatory sections, scientists hope to identify the proteins, known as transcription factors, that activate genes. They could then design drugs which control or inhibit specific genes implicated in disease.

Scientists believe blocking transcription factors is an important new way of tackling diseases ranging from cancer and AIDS to asthma.

Regulatory regions make up some five per cent of the total human genome, the strands of genetic material grouped in each cell's 23 chromosomes which are made up of three billion base pairs of deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA).

Genethon and Genetec

said they were establishing a new laboratory known as TGS (Tres Grand Sequençage) at Evry, France, which would be the first in the world created to study the regulatory regions of the human genome.

Under the terms of agreement, the two organisations have made an initial commitment to the project of \$11 million, including a \$2 million equity stake in Genethon by Genetec.

The link is the first commercial collaboration by Genethon, a pioneering centre funded by donations to its annual telethon, which last year announced it had co-developed the first outline "map" of the human genome.

## U.S. suspects fiberglass as carcinogen

WASHINGTON (R) — The federal government has classified fiberglass insulation as a suspected carcinogen, the Washington Post reported Saturday.

Officials at the Department of Health and Human Services have put the material, which is used in 90 per cent of U.S. homes, on an official list of suspected or known carcinogens, the paper said.

Government scientists made the new classification based upon scientific studies which are cited in a report to Congress that will be released publicly in a month, according to the Post.

The Post reported that fiberglass insulation — which is typically found within walls, under attic floors and inside other sealed areas — is listed as a "suspected," rather than a "known," carcinogen.

Officials said that despite the new classification, insulation is safe when handled properly, according to the Post.

The paper reported that Bill Jameson of the government's national toxicology programme in Raleigh, North Carolina, which prepared the report, cautioned that it is "not a risk assessment document."

Rather, he said, the classification is the first step in hazard identification and "kind of raises a flag" about potential problem chemicals.

Fiberglass insulation was one of seven additions to the list known as the annual report on carcinogens, which now identifies 180 substances. Radon, a naturally occurring gas which can leak into basements, was also added to the list — as a "known."

## WEEKEND CROSSWORD

NAME-DROPPER

By Janet R. Bender

ACROSS  
1 Iraq city  
2 FLESH  
10 Left Row  
11 Accidentally  
12 Surgery  
13 Socks  
20 Concerning  
21 Eagle's nest  
22 Traveler Marco  
23 Sailing instruction  
24 Singer Galt  
25 Singer Galt  
26 Japanese food  
27 Solving instructions  
28 Part 2  
31 Foreign  
32 Correspondent  
33 Old English coin  
35 Everose evaluate

DOWN  
1 Future flowers  
2 Anchor position  
3 Gem  
4 By comers  
5 Common comment  
6 Love treas  
7 Harbor, for short  
8 — Prisoner, head  
9 Rich and fertile  
10 Unhappy  
11 Childhood from Rhoads Island  
12 Dine  
13 To one side  
14 Native of Bulgaria  
15 Was mercurial to  
16 Pervin  
17 Assigned  
18 Building tower  
19 Where Roma is  
20 Island near  
21 Sumatra  
22 Burying females

36 Turnpike test  
37 Key of  
38 "Marrad" With Children  
39 Propose for  
40 Substitution  
41 Agnes and Sergey  
42 Like Shes  
43 Stadium  
44 Widespread  
45 Rival of Dem  
46 Singer Galt  
47 — in  
48 Japanese food  
49 Solving instructions  
50 Part 2  
51 Foreign  
52 Correspondent  
53 Old English coin  
55 Everose evaluate

56 Vane letters  
57 Vague  
58 Comparison word  
59 Break  
60 Commandment  
61 Teachers  
62 ADONIS  
63 Anemone  
64 Archaic  
65 Strategical  
66 Strongly desire  
67 Instance  
68 Additional  
69 Truncated Part 1  
70 Recurrence  
71 Expansive  
72 Zone  
73 Pretty — picture  
74 Tact  
75 Western  
76 Dada artist  
77 Head of a region  
78 HELLENE  
79 Helene  
80 Promenade  
81 Leisurely  
82 Chair part  
83 Helene letter

101 Snide remarks  
102 Vague  
103 Post Teasdale  
104 Ohio city  
105 Adrenal  
106 Adrenal  
107 Weather word  
108 Scent  
109 Adrenal  
110 Scent  
111 Adrenal  
112 Scent  
113 Scent  
114 Scent  
115 Scent  
116 Scent  
117 Scent  
118 Scent  
119 Scent  
120 Scent

121 A living dog is better than a dead one  
122 Evaluate again  
123 White  
124 Driver course  
125 Computer input  
126 Long run  
127 Scent  
128 Scent  
129 Scent  
130 Scent  
131 Scent  
132 Scent  
133 Scent  
134 Scent  
135 Scent  
136 Scent  
137 Scent  
138 Scent  
139 Scent  
140 Scent

1. Lighthearted owner of haunted house cove it out to young newlyweds for a song.  
2. Did Dad don't to avoid blushing on his face as he told her to pop pie into Mom's oven?  
3. A rare pear gem in the zoo knew few of his kind, felt left out, so had to grace alone.  
4. Earthbound earthlings can only look skyward while astronauts glance back toward Earth.

Last Week's Cryptograms

1. LIGHTEARTED OWNER OF HAUNTED HOUSE COVE IT OUT TO YOUNG NEWLYWEDS FOR A SONG.  
2. DID DAD DON'T TO AVOID BLUSHING ON HIS FACE AS HE TOLD HER TO POP PIE INTO MOM'S OVEN?  
3. A RARE PEAR GEM IN THE ZOO KNEW FEW OF HIS KIND, FELT LEFT OUT, SO HAD TO GRACE ALONE.  
4. EARTHBOUND EARTHLINGS CAN ONLY LOOK SKYWARD WHILE ASTRONAUTS GLANCE BACK TOWARD EARTH.

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. OREJL MESSCHPRT KRJR KRJC TYTC  
MRRJ RQCT CELUPD OCTTS HSK YJX  
QYSECK YP PCJ PUHRTYX XHSYTB.

—By Earl Ireland

2. PEYXC ZTINSECT EI OYSFAC IXKYLEF  
TSC BGTZ PSIA BTG Y NEDL PECK.

—By Barbara J. Egg

3. AT MY WOODROWAY: ETR UWKI WOYCC AT  
EICKLY ME EIMYOCC. MRA WOYCC AT  
TRACKLY ME WOYCC.

—By Ed Haddleton

4. "HAIL I ESPRY." KEVNU LAN NZILNU  
IEKAINFPVXL RANO AN URP RS I  
SENKVPFX PENNY RED.

—By Deane H. McGogy

SOLUTIONS OF LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

ACROSS  
1 Sheepshead  
2 Aced  
3 Award for a champion  
4 Eclectic wheel  
5 Out of the world  
6 Scattered leaves  
7 Lull  
23 Principle  
24 Smallest of the lot  
25 Weight  
26 Composer Alban Berg  
27 Reindeer  
28 Photo finish  
29 Was  
30 "Woe is it!"  
31 Like Charles  
32 Ad branch  
33 —, sweet, dress  
34 Cross comb form  
35 From — Z  
36 Blade of a sword  
37 Demosines, for one  
38 Fashion  
39 Dairy  
40 Between pref. and end of gang or  
41 Rio  
42 Deer  
36 Reveal secret  
37 Gables  
38 Resonance  
39 Fashion  
40 Ornamental  
41 Marguerite  
42 In (yields)  
43 Remitted  
44 Piano adjuster  
45 Family member  
50 Bad day for Caesar  
51 Subordinate  
52 In person  
53 Score abhorring  
54 — over (collapse)  
55 Better skirt  
56 "It's — to tell a lie"  
57 Verna's captain  
58 Chair part  
59 Helene letter  
50 Bad day for Caesar  
51 Subordinate  
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56 "It's — to tell a lie"  
57 Verna's captain  
58 Chair part  
59 Helene letter

## ANSWERS

### PUZZLES

(A) FIND THE PARTNER  
HIS — BABETTE.

HER — RAYMOND.

(B) BREAD LINE

A loaf is 420 gr., a bun 60 gr. and a roll 150 gr.

★ ★ ★

### BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

1. The monsoons are periodic winds that blow from the Indian Ocean over India, bringing the regular wet and dry seasons. Trade winds blow continuously towards the equator from the regions on either side. Simoons are hot winds that blow from the desert over Arabia and North Africa, accompanied with suffocating clouds of sand. The Fohn is the warm wind that blows down the valleys of the Alps. The Sirocco is the wind, wet or dry according to the season, that blows across the Mediterranean to its northern shores.

2. Homer, Galileo, Milton, W.H. Prescott, Louis Braille, Taha Hussein, Helen Keller.

3. The Pope is elected by the cardinals of the Roman Catholic Church who meet in conclave where there is a vacancy, and are secluded from the world until one of their number has been elected by the votes of two-thirds of those present. The Archbishop of Canterbury is appointed by the sovereign on the recommendation of the prime minister — in other words, by the prime minister.

★ ★ ★

4. Eros in Piccadilly Circus; Rims in Hyde Park; Peter Pan in Kensington Gardens; Boadicea on the Victoria embankment; Lincoln at Westminster.

★ ★ ★

5. Ant, dung-beetle, wasp, lady-bird, flea.

كلمة الجواب

## King: No Syria-Jordan crisis

(Continued from page 1)

peace in our region, a comprehensive peace if possible, and now we are looking after our own responsibilities towards our people and towards our country in this equation."

Asked if there were steps to be expected on the Jordanian-Israeli track similar to the Palestinian-Israeli track, the King said the issue was different.

Regarding the Palestinian track, he said, "we hope that our brethren unify their ranks on the Palestinian arena and to progress and that all their efforts end in success."

Mr. Mubarak, who has called for progress in Israeli-Syrian talks that have been stalled over Israel's withdrawal from the Golan Heights, said the arrival of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat in the self-rule areas of Gaza and Jericho at the beginning of this month would smooth the way for other peace efforts.

"On the Syrian line I think the process is continuing. We expect problems will arise every now and then on all tracks... now that Arafat has arrived in his place and the wheel of the Palestinian problem started to move I think the other problems will be solved," Mr. Mubarak said.

said.

King Hussein was accompanied on the trip to Alexandria by Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali, Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and the King's political advisor Marwan Al Qasem.

"Egypt has a very important and effective role in the peace process and has good relations with Israel," said an unidentified Jordanian official in Amman quoted by Reuters.

"Therefore, it is very important for Jordan at this stage in its quest for peace to deepen coordination with Egypt and benefit from its past experience," he told Reuters.

King Hussein, in recent public statements, praised Egypt and insisted he will go all the way towards peace.

"We are facing a battle for peace. We hope we will succeed and give good results especially that our brethren went on the same path (towards peace)," the King said after returning to Amman on Saturday from talks in Washington and a private visit to London.

"Egypt was in the forefront... then came our beloved brethren in Palestine. Now it is high time for us to take care of the affairs of our homeland to enable it to stand firm in the face of the challenges."

By Michael Jansen in Jericho

Tawfiq Zayyad, three-time member of the Israeli Knesset from the Hadash Communist Party and long-time mayor of the Galilee town of Nazareth, was an ardent Palestinian nationalist and fine poet. His death in a tragic traffic accident Tuesday, driving on the perilous, steep and winding Taibeh-Jericho road, was a great loss to the Palestinian, and Arab, people.

His most famous and oft-translated poem, called "The Impossible," was written in 1965, before the Israeli occupation of Gaza, the West Bank and Jerusalem. It showed him to be an intifadist behind-the-scenes 22 years before the intifada began. He was both a struggler and a firm believer in Palestinian-Israeli, Christian-Muslim-Jewish coexistence. A Christian, he belonged to a three-member parliamentary party along with Hasbun Mahameed of Umm Al Fahm and Tamar Gonzansky of Tel Aviv. Only 64, he had many more years to serve his people.

The Impossible

It is much easier for you To Pass an elephant through a needle's eye

## The premature loss of a prophetic voice

Or catch fried fish in a galaxy.  
Plough the sea.  
Or humanise a crocodile.  
Than to destroy by persecution  
The shimmering glow of a belief  
Or check our march  
One single step.

As if we were a thousand prodigies  
Spreading everywhere  
In Lid  
In Ramlah  
In the Galilee.

Here we shall stay,  
A wall upon your breast.  
And in your throat we shall stick  
A piece of glass  
A cactus thorn.  
And in your eye  
A blazing fire.  
Here we shall stay,  
A wall upon your breast.  
Cleaning dishes in your bars.  
Filling cups for your masters.  
Sweeping your sooty kitchens.  
To snatch a bite from your blue fangs  
For our hungry children.  
Here we shall stay,  
A wall upon your breast.  
Facing starvation,  
Struggling with rags.  
Defying.  
Singing our songs.  
Swarming the streets with our wrath.

Filling your dungeons with pride.  
Rearing vengeance in new generations.

Like a thousand prodigies  
We roam along  
In Lid.  
In Ramlah.  
In the Galilee.

Here we shall stay  
Go then and drink the sea.  
Here we shall stay  
Unhinking sentinels on our earth and trees.  
Here we shall stay  
To ferment our cause as yeast does dough.  
Here we shall stay with ice cold nerves and hearts.  
We squeeze the rock to quench our thirst  
And lull starvation with dust.  
But we shall not depart.  
Here we shall spill our dearest blood.  
Here we have  
A past  
A future  
Here we are the unconquerable.  
So strike deep, strike deep  
My roots.

(September 1965 —  
Translated by Sulafa Hijawi for Al-Fateh)

A prophetic poem by a prophetic poet whose predictions had just begun to come true when he was killed.



Tawfiq Zayyad

## Street fighting in Aden

(Continued from page 1)

Aden peninsula where the old town is situated and where thousands of refugees have been sheltering after fleeing the fighting on the outskirts of the city.

On Tuesday trucks loaded with food and bottles of water and fruit juice left the northern capital Sanaa for Aden "to be distributed to the inhabitants," Sanaa television said.

Aden has been deprived of drinking water from a pumping station at Bir Nasser, 15 kilometres north of the city, for nine days.

Meanwhile journalists visiting Mukalla confirmed government forces have captured the southern city.

Both northern and southern Yemen had claimed they controlled Mukalla, 620 kilometres by road east of Aden.

The journalists also confirmed forces of the Sanaa-based Yemeni government have captured the airport of Al Rayan at Mukalla.

Sanaa-based foreign journalists, who flew in a C-130 military transport aircraft to Rayan from the northern capital on Wednesday, saw one southern MiG-29 plane captured intact there and a second one which was damaged.

Arab and Western diplomats said Wednesday the aim of the north's fierce offensive was to stop the Arab meeting in Kuwait from recognising the breakaway southern state.

Earlier the south's appointed "vice-president" Abdul Rahman Al Jifri urged the meeting to recognise the breakaway Yemen Democratic Republic, saying he hoped the meeting "would not just simply appeal to the Sanaa leadership" for a ceasefire.

Southern leader Ali Salem Al Beidh announced the south's secession May 20 and has vowed never to return to union with Mr. Saleh.

Nine ceasefires aimed at ending the conflict have collapsed within hours, with each side accusing the other of being the first to break the truce.

Two appeals from the U.N. Security Council for ceasefire have failed to firm the truce.

Sheikh Hamad Ben Jasim Jaber Al Thani, the foreign minister of Qatar, the only Gulf state to have shown some sympathy for northern Yemen, suggested that recognition would not precede a negotiated settlement.

"We do not want to be the arbiters to secession," he said.

The Damascus Declaration groups the Arab states that joined the multinational coalition to fight Iraq in the Gulf war, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman, the United Arab Emirates, Syria and Egypt.

It was formed to protect the Gulf from threats such as Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait, but its military element — deployment of thousands of Syrian and Egyptian troops in the region — never took effect. It now functions mainly as a political cooperation forum.

'Aden surrender negotiated'

YEMEN's civil war foes are negotiating the surrender of those parts of Aden, southern political sources said on Wednesday. "The purpose of these negotiations, which are going on under American sponsorship, is to avoid further bloodshed in Aden and to surrender what remains of its areas without fighting," one source told Reuters reporter Mohammad Mokhashef. The southern source said the negotiations would include the offer a choice to leaders of the breakaway southern Yemeni state either to leave the country or remain with appropriate guarantees.

Another southern political source said three southern leaders including Interior Minister Mohammad Ali Ahmad had left Aden by boat for Djibouti and would go from there to Sanaa to hold further talks with northern leaders.

May 4 signing of the autonomy accord.

That last meeting was in Cairo before a crowd of 2,000 invited guests. Extraordinary scenes broke out when Mr. Arafat only agreed to sign all of the accord after basty backstage negotiations.

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## KGB files show top scientist gave Stalin nuclear secrets

By Matthew Campbell

MOSCOW — One of the West's most revered scientists provided an invaluable boost to early Soviet efforts to build nuclear bombs when he answered questions by agents sent from Moscow, according to documents unearthed in the archives of the former KGB.

The top-secret documents help resolve the debate raging around Niels Bohr, a founding father of atomic physics. Recent allegations by a former KGB spy master that he was one of four top Western scientists who helped Moscow develop nuclear weapons were dismissed with howls of rage by scientists and historians.

Files that have lain undisturbed for five decades in KGB archives substantiate claims that Bohr — wittingly or not — helped Joseph Stalin down the nuclear path, a tragic irony given Bohr's warnings of the dangers of an arms race. A senior British nuclear physicist said after reading the files that the Russians would have learned a great deal about American nuclear bomb design from Bohr.

Bohr fled Nazi-occupied Denmark in 1943 to Britain, where he was a prestigious recruit for a British team participating in the American A-bomb project. After the war, he returned to Copenhagen where, according to the documents, he held two meetings in November 1945 with Soviet officials.

They bombarded him with questions about how the Americans were splitting the atom. "By what method was uranium-235 obtained in large quantities and what method is the most promising — diffusion, magnetic or some other?" was their opening gambit at one meeting.

The meetings were organised by Lavrenti Beria, the head of the secret police, who wrote a report to Stalin. "We sent a group of agents to Denmark," Beria wrote, "under the pretext of looking for equipment stolen by the Germans, to make contact with Bohr and get information from him on the problems of the atomic bomb."

The agents selected for this task were Lev Vasilevsky, a colonel in the special "S" department of the secret services charged with atomic



Joseph Stalin

spying and Jacob Terletsky, a physicist responsible for analysing scientific intelligence.

"The meetings took place on 14th and 16th November," Beria reported, "on the pretext that Terletsky wanted to see the Institute of Theoretical Physics. Comrade Terletsky told Bohr that he considered it his duty to pay a visit to him and that Moscow University still has warm memories of the lectures Bohr gave there."

Pavel Sudaplatov, former head of the "S" department, who is believed to have handled the assassination of Leon Trotsky, says in his book, Special Tasks, that Bohr, together with Robert Oppenheimer, Enrico Fermi and Leo Szilard, the other nuclear founding fathers, knowingly leaked secrets to Moscow through moles planted in the so-called Manhattan project for developing the A-bomb.

Bohr's son, Aage Niels Bohr, also a physicist, who

was present at the meetings with the Russians, has denied that the scientist offered them any help. He said one Russian "raised some technical questions concerning atomic energy, to which my father answered that he was not acquainted with details."

Files from the KGB archives show Bohr gave detailed replies to 22 questions prepared in advance by Igor Kurchatov, the director of Soviet nuclear research.

The KGB transcript of Bohr's conversation offers a fascinating insight into the level of scientific understanding at the time. Today's physics undergraduates could have answered every one of the questions put to Bohr without difficulty. But Stalin's best scientists hung on his every word.

In Kurchatov's appraisal, which also landed on Stalin's desk, Bohr was said to have given "a categorical answer to the question concerning the methods used by the U.S. to obtain uranium 235" and made an "important remark" concerning the effectiveness of using uranium which needed to be subjected to "theoretical analysis" by no fewer than three professors.

"This gives us a great deal of insight into a very important part of our history," said Dr. John Hassard, a nuclear physicist at London's Imperial College. "It emphasises just how much information was getting to the Soviets, some of it from establishment scientists such as Bohr."

Hassard believed the Soviets would have gleaned a lot from Bohr's comments, in particular the one he made in response to a question about how often the Americans were removing plutonium from their reaction — "the rumour is they do it once a week." This, said Hassard, "would have told the Russians a great deal about American bomb design."

Hassard said Bohr's description of the best cooling methods was exactly what the Russians had adopted in their RBMK nuclear reactors, such as the one at Chernobyl.

"He would have confirmed in their minds that this was the right way to go."

It has always been assumed that the Russians got most of their tips about bomb building from figures such as Klaus Fuchs, the German-born nuclear scientist working in Britain whose communist convictions led to him establishing links with Soviet intelligence. "I think the role of Fuchs has been exaggerated," Hassard said.

Historians have previously established that Bohr personally tried to convince President Roosevelt and Winston Churchill to hand over nuclear information to Moscow during the second world war in the belief that this would prevent an arms race after the war. Churchill was furious, saying that "professor Bohr ought to be confined or at any rate made to see he is very near the edge of mortal crimes."

With the devastation of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, fresh in his mind in the months after the war, Bohr

clearly still felt he was motivated by the best of intentions in agreeing to talk to the Soviets in November 1945.

According to Sudaplatov, "Bohr was nervous and his hands trembled" when he met the Russians. "But he soon controlled his emotions. Bohr understood, perhaps for the first time, that the decision that he, Fermi, Oppenheimer and Szilard had made to allow their trusted scientific proteges to share atomic secrets had led him to meet agents of the Soviet government."

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Niels Bohr

## Arafat, Rabin reach accord

(Continued from page 1)

the rest of the West Bank to maintain the momentum and win over sceptical Palestinians.

Final status negotiations on the toughest issues, Jerusalem, Jewish settlements in occupied Arab land and the question of a Palestinian state, will start by mid-1996 at the latest.

The PLO wants Israel to remove troops from urban areas in the West Bank soon. Israel has stressed the link in last year's accord between the redeployment and free Palestinian elections.

Mr. Arafat said the Palestinians wanted to hold elections as fast as possible on "our land, in Gaza and the West Bank including Jerusalem." He set no date but said former U.S. President Jimmy Carter would help supervise polling.

Mr. Arafat, Mr. Rabin and Mr. Peres were to hold a further round of talks at mid-night Wednesday.

It was the first time the three men have met since the

May 4 signing of the autonomy accord.

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By Nicholas Doughty in Reuter

BRUSSELS — Eastern European nations, encouraged by a softer approach from Moscow and positive signals from the United States, may renew pressure on NATO to let them join the alliance soon, diplomats have said.

Fearful that Russia would oppose any extension of NATO's borders eastwards, the 16-nation alliance has been reluctant to discuss who might join and when — although it promised earlier this year to take in new mem-

bers at some time in the future.

But diplomats said two recent events could open the way for a new debate within the alliance on the issue and renewed pressure from a host of Eastern European states keen to join.

U.S. President Bill Clinton said last week NATO might discuss the membership question next year, giving a clear signal to Moscow's former satellites that the alliance does not intend to postpone the question indefinitely.

"I want to state clearly that in my opinion NATO will be expanded and should be expanded," Mr. Clinton said in

an interview with Polish Television.

Diplomats said Russia's signing of NATO's partnership for peace scheme on closer military links last month, after much delay, was also a significant step.

"It is quite clear that we have to convince the Russians that there is no threat to them from taking on new members and we seem to be winning that argument," said one NATO diplomat.

Moscow had bitterly opposed the idea of seeing Eastern European states join its cold war foe.

But when Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev vi-

sited NATO to sign the partnership scheme, he took a softer line which surprised the alliance. While Moscow did not want any hasty expansion to NATO, Mr. Kozyrev recognised that it would happen.

Poland, which has pushed harder than any other country to join NATO as soon as possible, became the first Eastern European state to complete a detailed programme of military cooperation with the alliance on Tuesday.

Polish Deputy Foreign Minister Robert Mroziewicz and Deputy Defence Minister Jerzy Milewski agreed with the programme, set up

under the partnership for peace, at a ceremony in Brussels.

Both said it was designed to prepare Poland's Armed Forces, now adapting to western standards after years in the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact, for the day when the country would join NATO.

The partnership scheme, open to all former Warsaw Pact states and some other European countries, provides for joint exercises and defence planning. But it offers no security guarantees and is not an automatic ticket to future membership.

When it begins discussion

on expansion, NATO will have difficult choices to make.

Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania, Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia have all expressed a desire to join. But NATO diplomats are worried that too many new members would make the alliance unwieldy.

"One question is who we choose, where we draw the line," said one diplomat. "The second question is how we convince those who are left out that they have nothing to fear, that they are not being isolated."

## Eastern Europe may renew push to join NATO

## AFM downgrades five losing companies

کے لیے اس کا



## Bulgaria condemn Mexico to cruel exit

EAST RUTHERFORD, New Jersey (R) — Bulgaria, who only squeezed into the World Cup thanks to a dramatic last-gasp win, reached the last eight for the first time in their history Tuesday by beating Mexico on penalties.

The Bulgarians took the penalty shoot-out 3-1 after the teams had finished 1-1 at the end of 120 minutes of play.

Backed by the vast majority of the 70,000-strong crowd, the Mexicans lost their nerve in the shoot-out and their first three players failed to convert their kicks.

Bulgarian captain Borislav Mihailov emerged as his team's hero, saving penalties from Marcelino Bernal and Jorge Rodriguez after Mexican Alberto Garcia, who had netted from the spot during the game, blazed over the bar.

Mexican goalkeeper Jorge Campos saved from Bulgaria's Krasimir Balakov but had no chance with kicks from Boncho Genchev, Daniel Borimirov and the clincher from Yordan Lechkov.

"I did not have any particular strategy. I was just looking at the foot of the player taking the kicks," Mihailov said of his saves.

"God was a Bulgarian today," was the explanation of striker Hristo Stoichkov.

Bulgaria specialise in nail-biting wins, having scored in the last minute of their final qualifying match last November to eliminate France.

They had never won a match at five previous World Cup finals but have now won three in a row, a run which sets them up for a quarterfinal clash with champions Germany Sunday.

Referee under fire

This second round game was highlighted by poor re-

fereeing by Syrian Jamal Al Sharif who sent off two men from each side, cautioned a further six and awarded the Mexicans a hotly disputed penalty.

"We thought the referee was biased by the presence of 70,000 Mexicans in the crowd," said Mihailov. "I have to assure you there was no penalty and the expulsion of our player was unjustified."

The disputed penalty was awarded in the 18th minute after Emil Kremenliev tangled with Luis Alves Zague, and the same Bulgarian defender was dismissed early in the second-half for his second bookable offence.

"I was very surprised. I don't think he used good judgment," said Kremenliev. "He made a lot of mistakes."

Sharif also sent off Mexico's Luis Garcia soon afterwards, forcing both sides to play for more than an hour with 10 men as the match spilled over into extra time.

In three matches at the tournament, the official has booked a total of 19 players.

Mexican coach Miguel Mejia Baron refused to enter the debate. "I have never questioned referees before and this is not the time to start doing it," he said.

Mihailov described the moment of victory as "the happiest of my life."

"This is the greatest success ever for Bulgarian soccer, tactically we played it the best possible way."

The result was a particular disappointment for Mexico's flamboyant goalkeeper Jorge Campos who made a brilliant save from Bulgaria's first penalty by Balakov.

He lay slumped in his goalmouth for a long time after Yordan Lechkov had decided the outcome, but eventually rose to his feet to be consoled by Bulgarian goalscorer Stoichkov.



Above, Bulgaria's Emil Kostadinov (L) is tackled by Mexico's Juan de Dios Ramirez during their World Cup second round game Tuesday at Giants Stadium. At the end of regulation time the two teams were tied 1-1. Below, Bulgaria's Emil Kremenliev holds his face after he received a red card and was ejected from the match (AFP photos)

### Bulgaria tough, but beatable

CHICAGO (AP) — Bulgaria will be a tough quarterfinal opponent for the defending World Cup champion, but German players and coaches expect to clear the hurdle.

Speaking after Bulgaria's penalty shoot-out victory over Mexico Tuesday, assistant coach Rainer said it was better for the Germans to play against a European team.

"But it will be a tough job, we must not underestimate them, even if they had to play extra time today," he said.



## Mexicans celebrate even in defeat

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexicans celebrated even in defeat Tuesday, as about 15,000 soccer fans gathered at a downtown Monument following Mexico's 3-1 loss to Bulgaria in World Cup soccer.

Adan Gonzalez, 17, sat glumly at the base of the Angel of Independence monument, wrapped in a Mexican flag.

"We have to support them, we are Mexicans," he said. "Good or bad, we are with them."

But as more and more people gathered at Mexico City's symbolic centre, spirits rose with cheers for the Mexican team.

People waved flags, chanted "Mexico," wore giant sombreros and painted their faces in red, white and green, the colours of the Mexican flag at the Angel, the 12-story monument to Mexican independence.

Laura Hernandez, 32, brought her two young sons to celebrate.

"No, it's not as fun as if they had won," Hernandez said. "But just to pass into the second round is an achievement."

Mexico City police said they were prepared for a riot after the destruction caused June 26, the Mexican team's previous game. Mayor Manuel Aguilar promised there would be no repeat of previous soccer riots.

Three people were killed at least 150 injured during giant street celebrations by 150,000 revelers toasting Mexico's advance to the second round of the World Cup.

This time, however, the crowd was relatively peaceful. Red Cross worker Guillermo Garcia said no injuries were reported.

Mexico and Bulgaria were tied 1-1 after 90 minutes of regulation time. Bulgaria won the game on penalty kicks, and will now face defending champion Germany in the quarterfinals.

Many questioned coach Miguel Mejia Baron's reluctance to substitute players late in the second half and in extra time. Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari issued a statement criticising Mejia.

"Maybe if we had reinforced our forwards when Luis Garcia was expelled, we would have had more opportunities," he said.

But speaking to reporters, Mejia Baron defended himself.

"I saw that we were controlling the game," he said. "I thought that making a change would run the risk of disorienting the team."

In Mexico City, some one hundred riot police stood guard with helmets and shields around the angel, along with 30 foot police, 40 mounted police, patrol cars, two trucks and ambulances.

The American Embassy nearby was barricaded, and music stages had been set up to entertain the crowd. Helicopters flew over the area, and 500 motorcycle police patrolled major streets in groups of about 45.

Authorities said 24,000 police were mobilised, and sales of alcohol were banned all day.

## Iordanescu to bring Romania back down to earth

ARCADIA, California (R) — His players have beaten Argentina, experienced the greatest day in their soccer history and celebrated into the early hours in a disco. They have even been given a day off from training.

Now Romanian coach Anghel Iordanescu says his hardest job before Sunday's quarterfinal with Sweden in Paolo Alto is to bring his men "back down to earth again."

Iordanescu told reporters at the squad's final news conference before flying to San Francisco. "That is my first objective this week."

"When you reach this stage of the World Cup you start to dream, all the teams left in now are entitled to dream, but this is the worst time to waste what you have achieved. You have to carry on working very, very hard."

Iordanescu also said Florin Raducioiu, suspended from playing in Sunday's second round 3-2 win over Argentina, would win an immediate recall for the match against Sweden.

"Even though we won, we felt his absence and missed him," he said. The player most likely to lose his place is defender Gheorghe Mihali who replaced Raducioiu on the team-sheet, although Iordanescu played him in a defensive role rather than in the attacking position the AC Milan striker fills.

Romania and Sweden will be meeting for the second time in four weeks Sunday.

On June 12, five days before the World Cup began, they drew 1-1 in a low-key friendly on a high-school field in Mission Viejo, but Iordanescu said the relevance of that game to Sunday's quarterfinal was minimal.

"Two games are never alike, and of course that first match ended in a 1-1 draw and that can't happen on Sunday. The only thing for sure about Sunday is that the team that makes fewest mistakes will win."

"As soon as we were one we were one man down, we had to leave the technical aside and play with our

## Brazil will take the win — art comes later

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP) — Brazil wanted a stylish victory over the United States that would show the team was back to its flamboyant best.

In the end, it settled for a win, period.

Brazil's 1-0 victory over the United States Monday was gutsy, hard-fought and dramatic. It gave the Brazilians a berth in the quarterfinals against the Netherlands. But it fell short of the artistic show fans have come to expect — nay, demand.

The criticism this time came from a source from within: Star striker Romario. "The team won with poor soccer," Romario said after the game. "We were bad technically."

"With the players we have, we need to be much better if we don't want to go through the kind of suffocation we went through today," he said.

Back in Brazil, "suffocation" and "scare" were used often to describe the Fourth of July Independence Day game at Stanford Stadium.

Although the Brazilians controlled the offensive action, they were stymied by the blockade devised by the Americans' Yugoslav-horn coach Bora Milutinovic. The U.S. team packed the mid-field and defence with nine outfield players, leaving only Eric Steward on the attack.

"They simply didn't want to play soccer with Brazil," said Brazilian assistant coach Mario Zagallo. "Our domination was total, but penetration was difficult."

In the 43rd minute, Brazilian defender Leonardo was sent off for a vicious elbow to the left temple of midfielder Tah Ramos. The American suffered a skull fracture and was taken to Stanford Medical Centre for observation.

Leonardo faces possible suspension by FIFA, soccer's governing body. The issue was to be discussed by FIFA's disciplinary committee at its regular biweekly session Wednesday.

Brazil, playing 10 against 11, threw its artistic concerns out the window.

"As soon as we were one we were one man down, we had to leave the technical aside and play with our

hearts," Romario said.

In the second half, Brazil continued to dominate, and still could not score. The Fourth-of-July crowd came alive with chants of "U-S-A, U-S-A."

Nightmare scenarios began to build.

Would it be a repeat of the 1990 World Cup? Brazil also was dominating then in its second-round game against Argentina. But on a lone counterattack, the Argentines scored and sent Brazil home with a 1-0 defeat.

What if the game went to a penalty-kick tiebreaker? There was the ghost of the 1986 World Cup, when Brazil outplayed France in the quarterfinals but squandered scoring chances — ace midfielder Romario missed a penalty shot — and was eliminated in the shoot-out.

"There were a few of them looking at each other and concerned about the way things were going," U.S. forward Roy Wegerle said.

It lasted until the 74th minute. Romario made a solo run through the U.S. defence from midfield and served Bebeto breaking in from the right. His shot slid through a minuscule gap between defender Alexi Lalas and diving goalkeeper Tony Meola.

When U.S. defender Fernando Clavijo was ejected in the 86th minute after earning his second yellow card, it was over.

"It was a victory of guts and determination," said Zagallo.

Coach Carlos Alberto Pereira chose to praise the U.S. team, which has now lost all its six matches to Brazil by a combined score of 13-3.

"There was nothing inexperienced about the American team. They've got players who played in Europe and all over the world, and there was no shame in it being such a close game."

Well, maybe not. But Brazil will have to show more to satisfy its demanding fans and take home its fourth World Cup.

Take it from Romario. "The only reason we won was guts," he said. "We have to play better. We need a little more from each player."

## Violence abroad breaks World Cup calm

NAPLES (R) — Italian's joy over their soccer team's 2-1 victory over Nigeria was marred when a 15-year-old boy who fired a pistol in celebration accidentally killed his seven-year-old cousin, police said.

Police said Salvatore Oliva died in hospital after he was hit by a bullet in the heart in the town of Herculaneum, near Naples, Tuesday night.

The pistol was fired by his cousin. Police had earlier said the dead boy's uncle, Domenico Giampaglia, had fired the gun.

They said the uncle, who had a permit for the gun, had been accused of lax custody of a firearm for not having kept it out of the reach of the children.

Italians from the Alps to Sicily danced in the streets, jumped into fountains and set off fireworks to celebrate the thrilling victory which kept their World Cup hopes alive.

In Brazil and the Netherlands, rampaging fans have reminded soccer's rulers that the game despite the relative absence of trouble at the World Cup.

Middle America, long suspicious of soccer as a sport surrounded by thugs and lunatics, may so far have seen only capacity crowds enjoying trouble-free matches at USA '94.

But the news from abroad has been the same as ever, with tales of football fever in

distant lands.

"Soccer is simply paying the price for being such a popular sport," said FIFA press officer Andreas Herren Tuesday, shrugging off any suggestion that violence abroad might be overshadowing the tournament.

Fans in Brazil and the Netherlands battled with police Monday after their teams set up a quarterfinals clash.

"An enormous crowd had gathered in the centre (of the Hague), making it difficult to get the mob under control," a Dutch police spokesman said Tuesday. Fifty Dutch supporters were arrested in the city.

The Dutch, who play Brazil in Dallas Saturday, had earlier beaten Ireland 2-0 in Orlando.

Brazilian police said more than 50 people were hurt and more than 30 arrested in clashes in the southern city of Curitiba and the central-eastern city of Uberlandia.

The fans, celebrating Brazil's 1-0 win over the United States in California, hurled stones and bottles at police, who responded with tear gas and baton charges.

The murder of a player in Colombia Saturday, apparently for conceding an own goal that contributed to his country's early exit from the World Cup, was by far the most horrific incident to overshadow the tournament.

Americans, who tuned into the Brazil game in record

numbers, have had plenty of other examples of soccer-related madness to contemplate as well.

In Sweden last month, a woman stabbed her partner dead with a pair of scissors after he forced her to stay awake in the early hours for a World Cup match.

After the killing, the woman fell asleep. Two other Swedes who had been drinking with the man were so engrossed by the match that they did not notice what had happened.

A Romanian farmer stabbed and wounded seven passers-by in a street dispute sparked by Romania's historic 3-2 win over former champions Argentina in the second round.

A 43-year-old Argentine man died of a heart attack in the northern city of Resistencia after Romania scored their third goal, a local news agency reported.

In Norway, an angry fan threw his television set into the street from the window of third-floor flat after Italy beat Norway 1-0 in a first-round match.

An Albanian soccer fan may not be seeing his wife any more either after a true attack of the World Cup fever.

Short of cash for gambling, he bet his wife on the outcome of Bulgaria's match against Argentina and lost.

His wife promptly disappeared with the winner.

## Life without Van Basten and Gullit not so bleak

ORLANDO (R) — The Dutch World Cup squad took a well-earned day off Tuesday as they contemplated the prospect that life without Marco van Basten and Ruud Gullit may not be so bleak as they thought.

Monday's 2-0 win over Ireland carried the Netherlands to the quarterfinals for the first time since the golden days in 1974 and 1978 when they finished as losing finalists.

More importantly, a compelling, all-round performance in which Dennis Bergkamp led by example showed at last that the Dutch are not just title contenders on paper but on the field as well.

Van Basten's career-threatening ankle injury and Gullit's highly publicised walkout just before the finals looked likely to leave the Dutch team without the leaders capable of making the men from the lowlands scale the heights of success.

An unimpressive and tricky passage through Group F seemed to confirm the view that the Dutch were a little short of true class but the Irish match changed all that.

Trainer Dick Advocaat, who would naturally have liked both of the missing stars

on his squad, was highly delighted with his new-found team.

"We are very satisfied that we have also played most of the last two years without both Gullit and Van Basten," he said.

Gullit played in just three World Cup qualifying matches before he quit the side in an earlier disagreement with Advocaat over tactics and Van Basten appeared in only two before his injury.

In their absence, the clockwork orange machine has certainly not run down and Bergkamp is the man who is winding it up.

The blond forward struck for his second goal in as many matches Monday, taking his tally to 21 in 35 games for his country.

The 25-year-old Inter Milan player used to prefer to get his goals on daring runs from midfield but these days he is leading the attack from a centre-forward position and doing it with style and relish.

But the blossoming Dutch team who take on World Cup favourites Brazil in a daunting test in Dallas Saturday are much more than just a vehicle for Bergkamp's skills.

Despite criticism of his lack

of pace, Ronald Koeman continues to be a tower of strength in central defence even though he has rarely got forward as yet to unleash his fearsome free kicks and long-range shots.

In midfield, Bergkamp's Inter teammate Wim Jonk pulled the strings perfectly against the Irish in the absence of the suspended veteran Jan Wouters but it was the attack which was most impressive.

Unlike other teams at the World Cup, the Dutch are playing not with one but two wingers and young Marc Overmars and Peter van Vossen proved the fatal thorns in Ireland's side.

Overmars, a 21-year-old Ajax Amsterdam flanker, was simply brilliant as he jinked past opponents at will and caused confusion and panic by constantly switching wings.

Advocaat's belief in wing approach play has led him to field no less than four wingers in the tournament so far with Bryan Roy and Gaston Tanant also appearing in most matches.

The trainer's faith in attacking soccer leaves the Dutch vulnerable at the back.

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## Kingdom's soccer season kicks off

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan's 1994 soccer season kicked off Wednesday with the commencement of the second, third and fourth division championships in which 145 teams are taking part, hoping to advance their standings and reach the prestigious first division which includes the Kingdom top 12 teams.

The Jordan Soccer Federation (JSF) also announced that the rest of the season's competitions would begin next month. Al Ramtha will play Al Arabi in the opening match of the first division August 18.

The first division groups champions Al Faisali, runners-up Al Wihdat, Al Hussein, Al Qadisiyah, Al Ahli, Al Arabi, Al Ramtha, Al Jazireh, and newcomers Al Karmel, Shabab Al Hussein, Al Jeel, and Kufri-soun.

Al Fuheis, Shabab Al Baqaa, and Yarmouk Amman were relegated upon the completion of the 1993 championship in April and will play in the second division.

The JSF also announced the preliminary schedule of the Federation Cup which begins Aug. 5 and in which only first division teams will be taking part.

The competing teams have been divided into two groups: Titleholders Al Ramtha, Al Wihdat, Kufri-soun, Al Arabi, Al Ahli and Al Faisali are in group 1. Runners-up Al Qadisiyah, Al Hussein, Al Jazireh, Al Karmel, Shabab Al Hussein and Al Jeel are in group 2. The top teams of each group will face off for the trophy.

Sixteen teams will be competing in the second division at the end of which only four teams will be promoted to the first division.

The third division is made up of 31 teams which have been divided into four groups. The top four teams will be promoted to the second division.

The fourth division includes the highest number of teams — 98 — which have been divided into 25 groups. Also the top four teams will be promoted to the third division.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### U.S. loss makes for American television record

NEW YORK (R) — The Independence Day World Cup clash between the United States and Brazil was seen by more American television viewers than any other soccer match, the ABC network reported Tuesday. ABC officials said preliminary figures from the country's 30 leading television markets showed Brazil's 1-0 win over the hosts Monday garnered a 10.4 rating. A comparable figure when the full national ratings are available July 14 would mean the second-round match was watched in about 10 million U.S. households. The previous record was the June 26 broadcast of Romania's 1-0 victory over the United States in the first round. "This vindicates what ABC has always said. This is one of the great sporting events in the world," ABC spokesman Mark Mandel said.

#### Dutch are best attacking team

DALLAS (R) — The Netherlands, and not favourites Brazil, are the most exciting of the eight sides left in the World Cup, according to the official statistics. The Dutch, who face Brazil in Saturday's quarterfinal in Dallas, have had 80 shots at goal in their four matches, but are struggling to convert their chances into goals. Brazil rank only fifth among the quarterfinalists, with 63 shots, but they boast one goal more than the Dutch. Spain, who are joint-highest scorers with Sweden, on five, have a far higher ratio of shots on target than the Dutch. Of 62 shots at goal in four games, 32 have been on target, compared with the Dutch whose aim has been true only on 28 occasions. But the Dutch boast a greater depth of attacking talent, with four players — Dennis Bergkamp, Wim Jonk, Ronald Koeman and Brian Roy — all shooting in double figures and three of them scoring, while Brazil have only two, Romario and Bebeto, and Spain rely heavily on Fernando Hierro and Juan Golkoetxea.

#### Ramos out for 3 months

MISSION VIEJO, Calif. (R) — U.S. midfielder Tab Ramos suffered a fractured skull from an elbow by Brazil's Leonardo in their second-round World Cup clash and will be out of soccer for three months, a team spokesman said Tuesday. Dean Linke said Ramos spent the night at a hospital near San Francisco and was discharged Tuesday. He was returning to the U.S. team's training camp here in southern California. "He will have another CAT scan tomorrow and will undergo tests Thursday," Linke told reporters. "He's out from three to six months." Ramos, who helped his club team Real Betis win promotion to the Spanish first division last season, had a fracture above the left ear. At first the U.S. team said Ramos, carted off the pitch clutching his head, had suffered a second-stage concussion from a blow to the left temple.

### GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMMAM HIRSHI  
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#### SLIPPING ONE PAST DECLARER

Both vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH  
♠ K Q 3 4  
♥ J 10 9 8  
♦ A K 6  
♣ 7 2

EAST  
♠ A 2  
♥ A Q 7 3  
♦ Q 2 8  
♣ 10 8 5

SOUTH  
♠ 10 5 3 2  
♥ K 5 2  
♦ 10  
♣ K Q J 9 4

The bidding:

West North East South  
Pass 1 ♠ Pass 4 ♠  
Pass 2 ♠ Pass Pass

Opening lead: Eight of ♠  
Bridge columns do a disservice to the spectators. The perception of many players is that all the excitement occurs on game or slam hands, so the partial is relegated to second-class citizenship. However, many of the most exciting battles across the green baize occur below game level. South almost had the values for a game try once North could raise spades. However, shortness in open-

er's suit and the poor quality of the trump suit caused South to adopt a conservative approach. Indeed, it was the latter flaw that allowed the defenders to prevail.

West's lead of the eight of clubs is the modern style. To distinguish between suits where the opening leader holds high cards and poor holdings, the defender leads fourth-best from a good suit and second-best from rubbish.

East rose with the ace of clubs at trick one and had no problem finding the shift to the six of hearts. Declarer played low, West won the queen, cashed the ace and continued with a third heart. East ruffed and reverted to a club, won in the closed hand.

Declarer tried to draw trumps, but West hopped up with the ace immediately and led another heart. Since dummy had to follow, East's ruff with the jack of trumps was the setting trick.

Note the problem East would have had at trick two had West led a low club. There would have been no way for the defender to know for sure that it was right to shift to a heart rather than continue with clubs.

## 1994 women's basketball championship starts today

By Aileen Bannayan  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Jordan Basketball Federation (JBF) will have its hands full this week as the 1994 women's basketball championship and the third division tournament will commence.

Although 7 teams had initially registered to play in this year's women's championship, only three teams will be competing for the trophy — titleholders Al Jazireh, former champions Al Orthodoxy and Abu Nusair.

Former competitors Al Ahli and Homentmen declined to play this season, while newcomers Al Watani and Al Husun pulled out before the announcement of the schedule.

Abu Nusair will take Al Jazireh in the opening match of the championship Thursday evening at Al Orthodoxy court.

Meanwhile, five teams will be competing in the third division championship: Anjarah, Deir Abi Sa'id, Al Jeel, Al Fuheis and Al Mazra, while Al Alia and Mafraq pulled out of the competition. Only the winner of the tournament will be promoted to the second division.

The JBF had hoped that this year's women's championship would group the highest ever number of competing teams providing a valid chance for regrouping the women's national team which last competed in 1983.

Players also hoped that the newly formed JBF would give more attention to women's teams, especially with the forming of a special committee to seriously supervise women's basketball.

However the disappointing fact that only three teams will be competing has made the problem worse and the already inadequate once-a-year competition will be completed over a period of ten days.

Over the years this regrettable state of women's basketball has forced the clubs who maintain women's teams to

best foreign teams in order to give players an incentive and keep them busy throughout the season.

Jordan's women's champions commenced their season early this year when they played a series of matches in Aleppo, Syria. They met league leaders Al Horriyeh, runners-up Al Yarmouk and Al Jala.

The titleholders are expected to be ready and determined to retain their trophy as they prepare to host top four regional teams in Al Jazireh's women's international tournament later this month. The first foreign team to play in Jordan were Lebanon's Homentmen who were hosted by their Jordanian counterparts in June 1992.

Despite months of postponements and a meeting of coaches of women's teams, it seems that the timing of the women's championship did not suit most clubs as players only began serious practice after ending school and university examinations.

"Training did not go according to plan as many players missed practice," Al Jazireh's head coach Fadi Sabbah told the Jordan Times. "Tawjihi exams ended right before the competitions and one couldn't expect players to give priority to basketball at such a time."

The state of women's basketball has been regressing since 1983 when the women's national team last competed and competitions were put on hold for over six years.

Since then, the former JBF announced the regrouping of the women's team in December 1992. However players are still awaiting for practice to begin.

Women's basketball began its latest comeback in the 1989-90 season when three teams, Al Orthodoxy, Al Ahli, and Homentmen competed in the championship which was won by Al Orthodoxy.

In 1991, Al Jazireh joined the women's championship and finished fourth after the three aforementioned teams. In the 1992 competition, Al Jazireh clinched third

place from Homentmen, and in 1993 defied expectations by clinching the title away from Al Orthodoxy.

Al Jazireh have since recruited two pivotal players, Jumana Salhi and Rana Hussein, who alongside Tala Al Mawji, Suhair Makusi and the rest of the ambitious team-mates are expected to be well prepared to assert themselves as Jordan's champions before they face Lebanese champions Homentmen, Syria's runners-up Al Jala, Kefaloyrys of Cyprus and a select team from the occupied territories during their July 23-29 championships.

Al Jazireh's only real rival in the JBF championship are former champions Al Orthodoxy, who together with Al Ahli are the top contenders for the season's basketball titles.

Al Jazireh, sponsored by Aramex, are a growing powerhouse in Jordanian basketball. In addition to the women's title last year they also clinched the youth's under-14 and under-16 titles, while their men's team finished third in the first division, and second in the under-19 competition.

Al Jazireh last month clinched their first trophy of the season when they overcame Al Ahli to win the U-22 championship.

Al Orthodoxy clinch under-16 trophy

Al Orthodoxy secured their first basketball title of the season when they ended the under-16 championship with an unbeaten streak and stripped titleholders Al Jazireh of the title.

Al Orthodoxy's promising players crushed Al Abbasi 94-23 on the final day of the tournament sponsored by Opel.

Al Jazireh came in second despite losing to Al Ahli 64-52 in an earlier match.

Al Orthodoxy had secured their title earlier this week when they overcame the titleholders 70-50.

Al Ahli had to be content with third place after losing 70-56 to Al Orthodoxy, and 64-54 to Al Jazireh in earlier matches.

## Premier involved in on-off Irish World Cup party

DUBLIN (R) — Prime Minister Albert Reynolds was involved in frantic efforts Wednesday to rescue an on-off party of the year for the homecoming Irish World Cup soccer squad — with or without the manager of the side.

Government sources said Reynolds was keen to hold what could be Ireland's biggest street party after it was abruptly cancelled Tuesday because manager Jack Charlton and key players said they would not be coming to Dublin yet.

Reynolds asked Dublin council to reconvene and try to salvage the festivities, which were expected to have attracted more than half a million people to the Phoenix Park on the capital's outskirts.

The celebration was to have capped three weeks of festivities during which this nation of 3.5-million people

was fixed before television sets following the progress of the side finally kicked out of the tournament 2-0 by Netherlands.

But Monday night, Englishman Charlton told the organisers that he would not be coming back as he has contracted to do television commentary work with a British company.

It also emerged that several key players including captain Andy Townsend would not be coming to Dublin — it is some to few of the players because most are members of English or Scottish clubs and live in Britain.

Charlton said he had repeatedly informed the Irish football authorities of his television contract and that he would not be back in Ireland immediately after the side's interest in the tournament ended.

"I am hurt by suggestions

that I am opting out of the homecoming — even more by suggestions that, if players were getting paid for it, they would go to Dublin," he told the Irish Times.

"Those kind of remarks are beneath contempt. The fact is that some players' families have come out here to go on holiday before they report back for pre-season training."

Irish radio stations buzzed with reports about which players would be returning. The Irish times reported that up to 20 members of the 22-man squad had agreed to come to Dublin under pressure from organisers and fans.

The team's World Cup progress, which included an historic 1-0 win over soccer giants Italy in the opening game June 18, ignited Ireland in a show of national pride unseen since the Pope's 1979 visit.

## Hagi postpones transfer talks

ARCADIA, California (R) — Romania captain Gheorghe Hagi said Tuesday he was flattered by reports linking him with Barcelona and Tottenham, but said he would not make any decisions about his future until after the World Cup.

"If Mr. Cuyff at Barcelona is interested in me, I am delighted, and if Tottenham are interested in me that is a very high compliment from an English club."

"But I cannot think about those things now. I am here in the United States with Romania in the World Cup and nothing else matter to me."

## Maradona's adviser receives death threats

BUENOS AIRES (AFP) — Anonymous threats have been made to kill Daniel Cerrini, who is alleged to have administered the banned products that led to Diego Maradona's expulsion from the World Cup.

The threats were made in calls to Cerrini's family, who have denied the dietitian prescribed ephedrine for Argentina's World Cup captain.

Friends say they are worried following the murder of Colombian World Cup defender Andres Escobar, who was shot on Saturday in Medellin after scoring on own goal in the United States.

All that is known Cerrini's present whereabouts is that he is still in the United States.

Meanwhile, Argentina coach Alfio Basile dismissed claims Maradona's film star behaviour had disrupted the

team. "Frankly, he surprised me. He trained three times a day and behaved like a real pro," Basile told the Clarin newspaper.

"That was all that counted. The rest didn't interest me." Basile said Maradona was surrounded by hangers-on and did not mix with the rest of the team once training was finished.

"But otherwise he did everything I asked of him," Basile added.

He said if Argentina had had Maradona and the injured Claudio Caniggia they would have reached the final. Basile had already marked out 20-year-old Arnaldo Ortega as Maradona's successor.

"He has a gift from heaven. Anybody would want a player like him in their side."



Chief Chamberlain Prince Raad Ben Zeid, who is surrounded by winners of various categories in the Ambassador of Pakistan Trophy, attended the golf tournament at the Bisharat Course July 1

## Pakistani envoy's tourney proves to be popular

AMMAN (J.T.) — Golf in Amman at the Bisharat Course continues to be popular. The Ambassador of Pakistan Trophy, now established as one of the prestigious tournaments in the Jordanian golfing calendar, not least because it is followed by a delicious Pakistani lunch, was played for the third time since its inception three years ago, on July 1, 1994. Incidentally the Pakistani initiative has been followed by other embassies such as South Korean, Japanese and for the first time this year, the

British. Thirty-seven players competed in the following categories: Open. Handicap 0-14. Handicap 14-30. There were separate prizes for ladies and veterans. The winners, categorywise were as follows:

Open category  
Winner: W. Richardson.  
2nd: M. S. Park  
3rd: Shishir Dutta

Handicap 0-14  
Winner: R. Birkhead  
2nd: L. Bennett  
3rd: M. Bell

Handicap 15-30  
Winner: R. Allen  
2nd: P. Pollerin  
3rd: R. Lyon  
The ladies' prize was won by M. C. Kim and the veterans by D. Lockyer. The runner-up was Y. Joury.

The special prize of two air tickets to Pakistan donated by Pakistan International Airlines (P.I.A.) was won by R. Allen with the best nett score. The next event at the Bisharat Club will be the Ad-Dastour Cup on Aug. 5, 1994.

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			PHILADELPHIA		PLAZA		CONCORD		AMMOUN Cinema and Theatre		Nabil Al Mashini Theatre		AHLAN THEATRE	
			Michael J. Fox James Woods in <b>The Hard Way</b> Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30		Nabila Obeid and Farouk Al Fishawi in <b>Unveiling The Secrets Arabic</b> Shows: 12:30, 3:15, 5:00, 6:45, 8:30, 10:30		<b>CONCORD '1'</b> <b>PERFECT WORLD</b> Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 <b>CONCORD '2'</b> <b>MY STEP MOTHER IS AN ALIEN</b> Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:00, 8:15, 10:15		Bob Hoskins in <b>Super Mario Bros</b> Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30		Today & Everyday Abu Awwad in social comedy <b>"PUNCTURED BAG"</b>		Present their play: <b>WHAT A PEACE!</b> (Salam Ya Salam) Daily at 8:30 p.m. The theatre is closed on Tues days.	

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Helicopter flights to link Gaza to Egypt

CAIRO (AFP) — Direct civilian helicopter flights between the autonomous Gaza Strip and Egypt will start in August, the director general of Egyptian said Wednesday. Mohammed Fahim Rayyan told journalists that the Egyptian national airline would cooperate with "the Palestinians to link Gaza to international capitals, via the Egyptian airports of Cairo and Al Arish." The latter lies 300 kilometres northeast of Cairo. He stressed that daily helicopters carrying a maximum of 50 people would be allowed to fly over the autonomous territories, under the accord signed in Cairo on May 4 launching Palestinian self-rule in Gaza and Jericho. Passengers arriving by helicopter from Gaza would then join Egyptian flights to their destination. Mr. Rayyan added that the terms of this cooperation had been agreed with the head of the Palestinians' civil aviation body, Fayez Zeidan.

## Abiola charged with treason and felony

ABUJA (AFP) — Nigeria's military government Wednesday charged opposition leader Moshood Abiola with treason and felony in a specially created federal court, witnesses said. Mr. Abiola, who was taken to the court in an armoured police van under heavy security, pleaded not guilty. Police had earlier arrested Frank Kokori, the secretary general of the country's main oil and gas workers' union, the union's president, Warri Agamene, told AFP. The arrest was reported as his union, the National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers, entered Wednesday the third day of a strike to pressure the military government of General Sani Abacha to hand over power to Mr. Abiola. Mr. Abiola is widely believed to have won presidential elections in June 1993 whose results were shelved by the military after being declared free and fair by international observers. He was arrested on June 23, just under two weeks after declaring the current military government illegal and announcing himself the legitimate head of government.

## Nationalist official killed in Algeria

Algiers (AFP) — A member of the National Patriotic Rally (NPR), Ibrahim Benaziza, was killed overnight in the eastern Algerian town of Annaba by unidentified gunmen, the daily newspaper Le Soir reported here Wednesday. Benaziza, a member of the local NPR branch in Annaba, was sitting with friends at a terrace cafe when several men shot him to death before fleeing, the newspaper said. The NPR was created by the late Algerian President Mohammed Boudiaf, killed on June 29, 1992, at Annaba. The nationalist party that uses "Algeria first" as its slogan, has become divided since Boudiaf returned to Algeria in January 1992 from exile in Morocco to become president and was assassinated shortly afterwards by one of his bodyguards as he was making a speech.

## Rafsanjani urges closer ties between Iran, India

TEHRAN (AFP) — Iran and India should develop stronger ties, Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said Wednesday during a meeting here with Indian Foreign Minister R. L. Bhatia. He said cooperation between the two countries was vital, the official news agency IRNA reported. And he called on Pakistan and India to solve the problem of Kashmir "peacefully and through talks." Iran, which has backed the Muslim separatists in Kashmir, has often criticised India's attitude to the problem of the disputed region in the past. Mr. Bhatia, who arrived early Wednesday in Tehran, handed over a message from Indian Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao. He also met his Iranian counterpart Ali Akbar Velayati and was due to hold talks with parliament speaker Ali Akbar Nategh-Nuri.

## Iran: 3 held in Thailand are innocent

BANGKOK (AP) — Three Iranian men arrested in connection with an attempt to bomb the Israeli embassy in Bangkok are innocent, the Iranian ambassador said Wednesday. "Three innocent people now are in the custody of Thailand," said Gholamreza Yousefi. A truck rigged with a one-tonne bomb was abandoned in Bangkok in March after it collided with a motorcycle taxi. Thai police suspected a plot against the nearby Israeli embassy and arrested three men on June 3. At a news conference, Mr. Yousefi said Thai authorities have not provided any evidence implicating the men. He identified them as Hossein Dasgiri, Babak Taheri, and Amad Amadi Harary and said they all denied any wrongdoing. Thai police have said a man named Hossein Shabani Far was the prime suspect in the case and was among those arrested on June 3. But Mr. Yousefi said Mr. Shabani Far entered Thailand on June 5, and therefore could not have been arrested on June 3. Mr. Yousefi said Mr. Shabani Far was expelled from Thailand June 9 and is now in Malaysia.

## Group calls for arms embargo on Sudan

WASHINGTON (AFP) — An international arms embargo should be imposed on Sudan in a bid to end severe human rights violations in the civil war, Human Rights Watch/Africa, said in a report released Thursday. "Specific military campaigns by the Sudan government and the two factions of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) have caused starvation and devastating loss of civilian life," the group reported. In a 279-page report on the war in southern Sudan, the organisation addressed actions affecting 4.5 million residents of the southern region of the country, both by government forces and factions of the SPLA. "The way the war is waged is directly responsible for the suffering of the southern Sudanese," Human Rights Watch reported. In 1994, more than 100,000 people abandoned their homes to flee the latest offensive from government troops against Juba, a rebel stronghold, the group said.

## Lebanon bans Al Wasat magazine

BEIRUT (AP) — Lebanon has banned this week's edition of a London-based magazine for carrying an interview with a fugitive right-wing militia chief, officials said Wednesday. The ban on the Arabic-language weekly Al Wasat, which normally hits newsstands on Tuesday, was ordered by the general security department, said the officials. It was first such move in years in Lebanon, whose press takes pride in being the freest in the Arab world. The controversial interview in the Saudi-owned magazine was with Hassan Touma, security chief of the outlawed Lebanese Forces, the group that fielded the main rightist militia during Lebanon's 1975-1990 civil war. Mr. Touma and imprisoned Lebanese Forces chief Samir Geagea, were indicted in the Feb. 27 bombing of a Maronite Catholic Church north of Beirut in which 10 worshippers were killed. Both also were indicted in the October 1990 murder of rival Christian leader Dany Chamoun, his wife and their sons. Lebanese authorities have asked Interpol to help pin down Mr. Touma's whereabouts to seek his extradition to stand trial with Dr. Geagea.

## Vanuatu establishes ties with Israel

PORT VILA (AFP) — Vanuatu established diplomatic ties with Israel Wednesday when the Jewish state's Fiji-based Ambassador Shmuel Moyal presented his credentials to Vanuatu President Jean-Marie Leye. Mr. Moyal, who is responsible for all Pacific island nations apart from Australia and New Zealand, also met Vanuatu Prime Minister Maxime Carlot and chief Justice Charles Vaudin d'Imecourt.



SELF-RULE CABINET: Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat on Tuesday chairs the first meeting of his Palestinian National Authority in Jericho. Planning Minister Nabil Shaath (fourth from right) said Wednesday that Mr. Arafat will settle in the Gaza Strip by mid-July to try to rebuild the economy for a population which is expecting more than mere words. (AFP photo)

## U.S., S. Korea at odds over N. Korean nuclear funding

SEOUL (AFP) — A behind-the-scenes dispute between the United States and South Korea over who should supply and fund "clean" nuclear technology to North Korea was made public in parliament on Wednesday.

Opposition legislator Lee Chul accused Washington of pressing Seoul to shoulder the cost of replacing Pyongyang's graphite-moderated reactors with light-water systems, which produce less plutonium.

The U.S. government wants Seoul to put up \$2 billion while using Russian technology instead of South Korean models. Mr. Lee told parliament, quoting documents allegedly obtained from U.S. sources.

Mr. Lee said Washington was refusing to let South Korea provide its own technology, which has been gathered in decades of tie-ups with the U.S., Canada and France.

In recent talks in New York, Washington suggested Russia's light-water reactors be provided to Pyongyang, reportedly arguing that the cost could be counted as partial repayment of South Korean loans to Moscow.

But Seoul opposed the U.S. position, citing potential problems concerning

"safety, technology and sovereignty." Science and Technology Minister Kim Si-Joong told parliament.

Mr. Kim said U.S., Japanese and South Korean officials discussed the question of funding and replacing North Korea's controversial reactors, but no agreement has been reached.

He confirmed South Korea was ready to provide its nuclear technology to North Korea, which has agreed to hold the first-ever inter-Korean summit July 25-27 in Pyongyang.

South Korea has offered North Korea substantial economic benefits in return for giving up its nuclear weapons programme, including a programme to finance the transformation of its nuclear reactors.

Government officials told newspapers here Wednesday Seoul hoped to supply technology to Pyongyang, but Washington was reluctant because the South Korean model is based on U.S. technology.

Japan also reportedly reacted unfavourably to the use of South Korean technology and argued for an international consortium.

Washington recommended the Russian reactor because it is cheaper and North Korea

is more accustomed to Russian technology, guaranteeing better safety management, the reports said.

But Mr. Kim said his government prefers the Korean-style reactors for North Korea.

"Our government, is all prepared over this issue from the approach of furnishing power to North Korea in economic cooperation," he added, raising speculation here that the offer was to be included in a package deal President Kim Young-Sam will take to the summit.

The question of changing North Korean reactors will be high on the agenda on Friday, when Robert Gallucci, U.S. assistant secretary of state, sits down for talks with North Korean officials in Geneva.

North Korea conveyed its offer to freeze its controversial nuclear programme through former U.S. President Jimmy Carter to Pyongyang in mid-June.

Mr. Carter said on his return from Pyongyang that the North was interested in replacing the graphite system with light-water reactors.

The flap reactor changes comes as South Korea's nuclear industry is coming of age to seek out overseas markets for its technological exports.

## Beilin: No release of Yassin unless he signs anti-violence undertaking

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel said as talks with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) resumed in Paris on Wednesday that it would stand firm on its terms for releasing the Hamas movement's jailed founder, whose freedom is a key demand of Yasser Arafat.

Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin, speaking on Israel Television, also said elections for the Palestinian self-governing authority might take place later by PLO officials.

Mr. Arafat capped a triumphant five-day return to the newly autonomous Gaza Strip and Jericho with talks in Paris on Wednesday with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres on completing and expanding their peace deal on interim Palestinian self-rule.

Mr. Beilin said Hamas founder Sheikh Ahmad Yassin would stay in prison unless he met an Israeli demand that all Palestinian prisoners sign a pledge renouncing violence and supporting the peace process as a condition

of their release.

"We will not free the many who in their very extreme ideological position against us are unwilling to sign such an undertaking, even if it's the man whose name Yasser Arafat repeated in speeches in both Gaza and Jericho — Ahmad Yassin," Mr. Beilin told Israel Television.

Mr. Arafat, who seeks Hamas backing to underpin the peace deal, urged the release of Yassin before cheering crowds during his landmark five-day visit to self-rule areas. He left Gaza for Egypt en route to Paris just after dawn on Wednesday.

"We have many issues to discuss with Mr. Rabin," Mr. Arafat said before leaving Gaza. "Our agenda is full of topics to implement the (peace) accord, particularly the release of prisoners."

The wheelchair-bound Yassin founded Hamas shortly after the start of the Palestinian uprising in 1987. He is serving a life term plus 15 years for allegedly ordering the killing of Israelis and Arab collaborators. Hamas has vowed to wreck the peace

deal.

The release of Sheikh Yassin and thousands of other Palestinians in Israeli jails is seen as crucial to Mr. Arafat's struggle to marshal grassroots Palestinian support.

Mr. Beilin cast a measure of doubt on statements by PLO officials that Palestinian elections could be held in October.

"I wouldn't count on elections in the territories in October," he said, disputing between PLO officials in Tunis and in the territories could delay the vote on a legislative council.

The timing of the election is being closely watched because under the peace accord a new stage of Israeli troop withdrawals from West Bank population centres will accompany the vote.

Senior PLO official Nabil Shaath said elections would "absolutely" be held by the end of this year.

Mr. Arafat, Mr. Rabin and Mr. Peres were originally invited to Paris to receive a U.N. peace prize honouring their efforts to end generations of Israeli-Palestinian bloodletting.

## Ekeus dampens Baghdad hopes

BAGHDAD (R) — A U.N. envoy heading a commission in charge of scrapping Iraq's weapons of mass destruction following the Gulf war ruled out on Wednesday an early start to a crucial monitoring programme.

"It is difficult to have the monitoring system in place for September," Rolf Ekeus, chairman of the U.N. Special Commission (UNSCOM) on Iraq, told Reuters before leaving Baghdad.

Mr. Ekeus arrived in Baghdad on Monday and had several meetings with senior Iraqi officials, including Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz.

He said the delay was needed because the "magnitude and task of the programme has grown up so much." He did not elaborate.

But he said both his commission and the Iraqis were racing against time to have the programme completed in the near future.

With all or most of Iraq's past dangerous weapons now located or accounted for, Mr. Ekeus is working on a long-term monitoring programme that would require inspections for years to come. The purpose is to ensure Iraq does not reacquire nuclear, ballistic missile, biological or chemical weapons.

Mr. Ekeus, who later left for Kuwait, said he was aware of the suffering of the Iraqi people "whose patience is highly motivated... (but) one must remember this is a big task."

He said U.N. members were interested in having the programme in place as quickly as possible. He said even the United States, which has linked removal of sanctions to non-arms issues, "has been strongly helping us keep in high speed."

Mr. Ekeus said the

periodic review of Iraq sanctions in mid-July will be "more of a type of reflection and assessment" and that portions of the deliberations by the Security Council would have to be deferred to September.

Iraq had hoped Mr. Ekeus would announce the start of the programme in July, thereby boosting a growing trend in the council towards rewarding Baghdad for its recent cooperation.

Iraq's anger was reflected in the almost total blackout on Mr. Ekeus' visit to Baghdad. The official press ignored him on Wednesday and there was no mention of his deliberations with Mr. Aziz on state television and radio.

Mr. Ekeus praised Iraqi cooperation and described his talks as "open, candid, clear and very positive." He did not go into details.

Iraq insists it has done all that is required under the ceasefire terms and it was time that UNSCOM announced the completion of its work in Iraq.

Once UNSCOM grants Iraq a clean bill of health, the Security Council is obliged under resolution 687 to lift the ban on Iraqi exports, including its all-important oil.

Mr. Ekeus said his commission was now at a very important stage in implementing the ceasefire arrangements, but still needed more time to declare that "Iraq had fulfilled obligations under paragraph 22."

The paragraph, part of Resolution 687, unfreezes Iraqi assets and allows exports.

Mr. Ekeus later arrived in Kuwait, where he met foreign ministers of eight Arab states meeting to discuss the Yemeni civil war and the situation in Iraq.

## Iran reels from blasts, killing of church leaders

TEHRAN (AFP) — A spate of bomb attacks on shrines and mosques coupled with a string of murders of religious leaders has left Iran reeling, prompting fears of a campaign to destabilise the country.

Tehran believes the attacks against Christian and Shiite and Sunni Muslim targets are aimed at sparking tension between the country's religious groups.

The most serious attack was a bomb blast in the mausoleum of Imam Reza in Mashhad, Iran's holiest Shiite Muslim shrine, which killed 24 pilgrims and wounded 70 more on June 20.

Maoyi Iranians have blamed the extremist Wahabi Sunni Muslim sect based in Pakistan which has already attacked Shiite targets in Iran.

But the authorities have pointed the finger at the main armed opposition group, the Iraqi-based Mujahideen-e-Khalq, which it said wanted to cause intercommunal strife.

The Mujahideen denied planting the bomb, but the official accusation succeeded in warding off potential revenge attacks by extremist Shiite Muslims against Iran's minority Sunnis, who make up 15 per cent of the population.

Since then, Tehran has heaped accusations on the opposition group.

Authorities arrested a man who they said was a Mujahideen member for trying to plant a bomb in a Sunni mosque in the southeastern city of Zahedan, several days after the Mashhad explosion.

Zahedan, which is near the Pakistani border and has a

Sunni majority, was the scene of violent anti-government protests in February following the demolition of a Sunni mosque by authorities at Mashhad.

A bomb exploded in the main Shiite mosque in Zahedan several weeks later.

On Tuesday, Tehran said the Mujahideen were behind another bombing attempt on two symbolic targets.

Authorities said two women tried to plant bombs in the shrine of the founder of the Islamic republic, the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, in a Tehran suburb, and in Iran's second holiest Shiite site, the Hazrat Maasumeh mausoleum in Qom, south of Tehran.

For the first time several Iranian leaders have suggested the attacks may be linked to tension between Shiite and Sunni communities.

Vice President Ayatollah Mohajeri said Monday it was "possible" the Sunni Wahabi sect was informed of the Mashhad bombing in advance.

The mysterious deaths of two pastors from Iran's tiny Protestant communities in the last several days have added to the tension.

Pastors Tedhis Mikhaeil and Mehdi Dibaj were both discovered dead, following the kidnapping and murder of a third pastor Haik Hovsepian in January.

An Iranian Protestant said Wednesday the triple deaths had left the 15,000-strong community in a state of shock, and "confirmed the existence of a growing climate of intolerance towards Protestants" in Iran.

## COLUMN

## King, queen of Norway begin U.K. visit

EDINBURGH; Scotland (AP) — King Harald and Queen Sonja of Norway arrived on the royal yacht Norge for a four-day state visit to Scotland. They were greeted with a 21-gun royal salute from the Royal Navy frigate HMS Marlborough and a flypast by six Royal Air Force Tornado jets. Queen Elizabeth II and her husband, Prince Philip, were meeting the Norwegians later Tuesday for a drive through Edinburgh to the queen's Holyroodhouse Palace. Hundreds of sightseers were expected to line the route for a glimpse of the royal couples.

## Police appeal to kidnapper of new-born baby

NOTTINGHAM, England (AFP) — The detective heading an inquiry into the snatching of a new-born baby from a hospital made a personal appeal for the young female kidnapper to contact the mother of the child. "I want to appeal directly to you, the woman who is now holding Abbie. You have your own problems that led you to take her, Inspector Harry Shepherd said, referring to Abbie Humphries, who was snatched from the Queen's Medical Centre here Friday, four hours after being born. He called on the woman to phone Karen Humphries, Abbie's mother, to "let Karen know Abbie is well... I realise you Love Abbie, but she is Karen's child, not yours," he said. The kidnapper, dressed in a nurse's blouse, took the baby from the arms of her father on the pretext that she had to have a bearing test and escaped with the baby. The blouse was found in one of the hospital's toilets. "You must feel really lonely to take such a step," the commissioner said. "We do understand and are ready to give you all the help, understanding and support appropriate to your needs," he added. Health Minister Tom Sackville said the case raised the question of security in hospitals.

## Man with 10 wives ready to 'face God' for offence

KUALA LUMPUR (AFP) — A Singaporean with 10 wives said he was ready to "answer to God" when charged in a Malaysian court for breach of Islamic laws allowing only four wives at one time, local newspapers reported Wednesday. "I do not intend to engage a lawyer as I will be defending myself. I am ready to answer to God," Abu Talib Haron, 34, told Judge Zaimuddin Mamat of the Syariah (religious) Court in Johor Bahru, capital of southern Johore state.

Abu Talib pleaded not guilty to 18 charges, including that of having more than four wives at one time and engaging in illicit sex with six women companions. He also faces charge of being involved in deviant Islamic teachings. Malaysian authorities arrested Abu Talib and his 10 wives and confiscated several pornographic videotapes during a raid in Johor Bahru in April, the reports said.

## Seminar to be held on Asia's street children

BANGKOK (AFP) — Six South East Asian countries are to take part in a seminar aimed at drawing attention to the problem of the region's street children, the European Union (EU) ambassador to Thailand said. Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam will send both government and non-governmental representatives to the conference, organised by the EU and held in Pattaya, south of Bangkok, from July 11 to 13. Delegates will discuss the situation of street children in each of the participating countries, focusing on child labour and prostitution. EU Ambassador Gwyn Morgan told a press conference here. "If attention is not given to street children now, the petty thieves of today may become the hardened criminals of tomorrow," said Mr. Morgan, adding that in the Philippines alone there were 1.5 million street children.

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